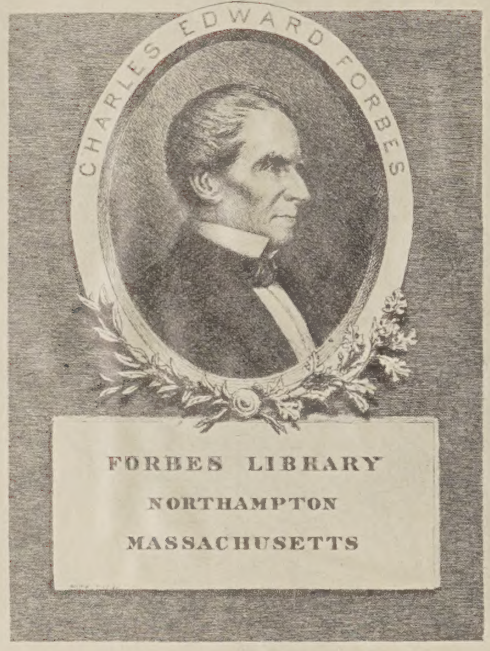
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"The Judd Manuscript"

Hadley Vol. 5 (1)

History of Hadley

Including the early history

of

Hatfield, South Hadley, Amherst and Granby

Massachusetts

by

Sylvester Judd

Original Manuscript

Part I

Chap. I - III and part of Chap. IV

With variations and omissions from and

additions to the printed text of the edition of 1863.

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Vol

Original Manuscripts of
"The History of Hadley"

History of Hadley.

Chapter I

Early settlements on Connecticut River. Controversies in the church at Hartford. Decision of the Council of 1659. Fugitives at Withersfield.

The first English settlement in New England, was made at Plymouth in 1620. This was the beginning of the Plymouth Colony, which was united to Massachusetts in 1692. The oldest town in the colony of Massachusetts is Salem, which was planted in 1628. Charlestown was begun in 1629, and the foundations of Boston, Dorchester, Roxbury and Watertown were laid in 1630, and a beginning was made at Cambridge in 1631. In a few years, ~~there were~~ many towns were planted ~~in the~~ in Massachusetts. ~~They~~

Previous to the settlement at Plymouth some Dutch traders visited Hudson's River and Long Island Sound, and in 1614, they built a small fort on the island of Manhattan, now New York, and in the next year, began a settlement near Albany. These Dutch adventurers discovered Connecticut River, which they named Fresh River, and in 1614, Adrian Block sailed up the river as far as Windsor. A commercial intercourse began between the Dutch and the Plymouth colonists in 1627. The Dutch gave the Plymouth people intimations respecting the ~~free~~ fertile lands upon Connecticut river, ~~and invited them to trade and form plantations there.~~

The Indians on Connecticut River were harassed and terrified by the more powerful Pequots, and some of their sachems and others who had been driven out, made a journey to Plymouth & Boston in 1631, and urgently solicited the English to ~~build a trading house and~~ form a settlement on the river, but the English governor declined the invitation. ~~at that time~~ The Plymouth colonists, who ~~had passed some years~~ vessels had visited the river, ~~and trafficked with the Indians~~ determined in 1633 to build a trading house there. They were anticipated by the Dutch, who, ~~in the summer~~ in, 1633, ~~from chance~~ built a light fort near the mouth of Little River in Hartford, having purchased some land of the conquering Pequots in June of that year. They intended to exclude the English from the Connecticut. But in October 1633, William Holmes of Plymouth, ascended the river, with the materials for a house on board his vessel, and disregarding the menaces of the Dutch, he passed by their fort, and erected a trading house a little below the mouth of Windsor River, on a meadow that still bears the name of Plymouth Meadow. Holmes carried ~~[illegible]~~ to the Connecticut some of the sachems, whom the Pequots had driven out.

In September, 1633, John Oldham and three others went overland to Connecticut River, to trade. These were doubtless the first Europeans, that passed by land from the sea-coast of Massachusetts, to Connecticut river. In November, 1633, Samuel Hall and two others travelled through the woods to the river, and returned in January. In 1634, men were sent from "the towns in the Bay," to ~~view~~ examine the country on the river. Those who took a view of the borders of the Connecticut, found fine lands and good situations ~~desirable places~~ for plantations, and their accounts of the fertility of the soil, were spread among the people; and many of the planters in the towns around Boston, and some new-comers, resolved to take possession of these desirable places. In 1635, some of the Watertown people began a plantation at Wethersfield; those from Cambridge (then called Newtown) settled at Hartford, and those from Dorchester at Windsor. In October about 60 men women & children from Dorchester, with their horses, cattle & swine, were 14 days in removing through the wilderness to Windsor. The ensuing winter was unusually severe, & the privations & sufferings of the inhabitants were extreme. The country about Springfield was examined in 1635, but Mr William Pynchon and his small company from Roxbury did not establish themselves there until May, 1636. In June, 1636,

Mr Hooker, Mr Stone and about 100 men women & children, with 160 cattle, traversed the forests from Cambridge to Hartford. They left Cambridge "the last day of May."

The war with the Pequots occurred in 1637, and resulted in the destruction of many of that tribe, and in the subjection of the rest.

The inhabitants of the new towns soon recovered from the distresses attending their first settlement, and from the effects of the Indian war, and many years of prosperity and happiness succeeded. They were industrious and frugal and their lands were productive. As early as December 1644. the General Court were endeavoring to find a market for their surplus produce. They say "Massachusetts & Plymouth complain of our overpilling their markets." In eight years from ~~the time~~ their removal to the banks of the Connecticut, they had overstocked the markets of Massachusetts and Plymouth. They built good houses and barns, ~~and~~ made additions to their furniture and implements and multiplied their conveniences & enjoyments.

The first emigrants to Connecticut River, knowing that their productions must be sent to market by the river and their supplies be received from abroad through the same channel, selected places where the river was navigable. Even Mr Pynchon and his associates did not place themselves above boat-navigation. But the great Falls above Springfield, now at South Hadley, were an ~~efficient~~ obstacle sufficient to prevent any settlement north of them for many years. At length, in May 1653, seventeen years after Springfield was begun, a number of men residing at Windsor, Hartford & other places, petitioned the General Court to grant them a plantation at ~~Chicopee~~ Nonotuck, above Springfield; and their petition was aided by three of the principal men in Springfield, who were very desirous of having neighbors in the colony to which they belonged. The General Court in the same month appointed three men of Springfield, John Pynchon, Elizur Holyoke and Samuel Chapin, to divide the land ~~at Nonotuck~~ into two plantations, and the petitioners were to have one of them. In ~~May~~ 1654, the Committee reported to the General Court, that they had ~~appointed~~ laid out the bounds of ~~only~~ one plantation, ~~and this~~ ~~was~~ on the west side of the river, extending "from ~~the upper end of~~ the little meadow called Capawonk or Mattaampt, down to the meadows the Falls; ~~to the great Falls above Springfield~~ including the lands on the east side of the river downward, ~~two westward~~ ~~miles~~ miles ~~and the plantation~~

into two towns, ~~[illegible]~~ The Indian title was purchased by John Pynchon for the planters, Sept. 24. 1653. The settlement of Northampton began in 1654, the planters purchased Capawonk meadow (now in Hatfield) of the Indian owner in 1657, this tract not being included in the purchase made in 1653. Hadley, the second plantation in the valley of Nonotuck or Norwottuck, was commenced in 1659, five years later than Northampton.[a]

Note

a. Hubbard says, "The differences in the churches in the years 1656. 1657 and 1658, "ended in the removal of one part of the churches & towns of Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor to another plantation or two up higher, upon (connecticut) river, the one of which was called Hadley, and the other Northampton." These strange errors of Hubbard are copied by Holmes, who fixes the settlement of both towns in 1658, which is not correct in regard to either. Religious ~~difficulties~~ differences had no concern in the first planting of Northampton; ~~[illegible]~~

Chapter III.

~~Religious~~ Controversy in the Church at Hartford.

Differences in the churches at Hartford and Wethersfield were the principal cause of the settlement of Hadley in 1659; but if these disputes had not occurred, such desirable tracts of interval would not long have remained without cultivators. The church at Hartford was one of the largest & most eminent in New-England, and the two ministers, Mr. Thomas Hooker and Mr. Samuel Stone, though unlike in some respects, were both great and good men, whose praise was in all the churches. Mr. Hooker was firm & decided, yet prudent & conciliatory, and there was no serious trouble or discord in the church while he lived. In a few years after his death, which happened July 7. 1647, a contention arose, having Mr. Stone and a majority of the church on one side, and a strong minority on the other. Several on each side were men of distinction in the town and colony. The origin of the difficulty has not been clearly stated by any writer. Hubbard alludes to different opinions concerning the extension of the privileges of those not church members; and says, "the first appearance of disturbance which on that account happened among them, was occasioned on a call of a person

Note.

a. It may perhaps be inferred from the language of Hubbard, that in the call of a pastor, ~~some men~~ ~~were allowed~~ the privilege of voting ~~should not~~ was extended to some who had not before voted on such questions, & that this produced uneasiness. ~~This is conjectural.~~

Note

a. It may perhaps be inferred from Hubbard's language, that in this call of a pastor, some men were allowed to vote who were not members of the church. If so, the state continued this irregularity. In those days only church members had a voice in the choice of ministers, but non-members were contending for this privilege & eventually obtained it.

to supply the place of Mr. Hooker." He does not tell when this occurred, nor who was the person to whom a call was given. In another place he says the differences at first were "about the enlarging of baptism and such like accounts." Mather says ~~the origin of~~ the misunderstandings began between Mr. Stone and the ruling elder (William Goodwin) but its origin was obscure. Trumbull ~~supposes~~ "that some member had been admitted, or baptism administered, which elder Goodwin conceived to be inconsistent with the rights of the brotherhood and the strict principles of ~~the~~ Congregational churches." ~~This supposition may be correct.~~

The first act that produced dissatisfaction, whatever it may have been, could not fail to be succeeded by other causes of discord, not rare but frequent in a church, where the sentiments of the pastor differed so much from those of a portion of the members. The minority were attached to the congregational way of church order as professed and practised under Mr. Hooker; they scarcely adhered to the Cambridge Platform, and were opposed to all important changes. They were sometimes called by some, "strict-congregationalists". On the other hand, Mr. Stone was endeavoring to introduce some new practices into the church; to effect some innovations that were displeasing to the minority; and he seems to have been sustained by a majority of the church. Trumbull is of opinion that his changes related to three subjects, and that the whole controversy respected them, viz. the qualifications for baptism, church membership, and the rights of the brotherhood. These three points require some explanation:

1. Baptism. Hitherto only the members of churches in full communion, had their children baptised. Now many ministers and others desired to enlarge the subjects of baptism, and a council or synod

Notes.

a. Trumbull is mistaken in supposing that "owning the covenant" was not practiced in Connecticut until 1696. There is an old accord in Windsor, relating to church matters, which states that Mr Warham first began this practice, January 31. 1657-8, and continued it until March 19. 1664-5 when he forbore, owing to scruples of conscience. Mr. Chauncey "set it on again" June 21, 1668, the church assenting to it.

b. The 21 questions discussed by this assembly, and the answers, are in Hubbard's History of New England. ~~Trumbull did not have access to this History.~~ This History had not been printed when Trumbull wrote & he did not have access to it. Of the 17 questions which he copies from the Connecticut records, about half are not included in the 21 questions, and many of the 21 are not embraced in the 17 proposed by Connecticut. There is no reason to believe that all the 17 questions arose owing the controversy at Hartford.

from Massachusetts and Connecticut met at Boston in June, 1657, and decided that baptism might be extended to the children of such baptized parents as were not scandalous & though not members of the church in full communion would own the covenant, &c. Mr. Stone was one of this council and ~~[illegible]~~ is supposed to have advocated the introduction of this new measure, this "half-way covenant," as it was subsequently called. Another synod met in Boston in 1662 and recommended the same practice. This ~~[illegible]~~ innovation met with much opposition in both colonies, and was but slowly introduced.

2 Church membership. From the first settlement of New England, only those who gave some evidence of their faith and repentance, were admitted to communion by ~~into~~ the churches. There were individuals, perhaps many, who desired to have all admitted to the Lord's supper ~~the church opened to all~~ who had competent knowledge, & whose conduct was not immoral, though not professing ~~avowedly believing themselves~~ to be Christians. No evidence has been adduced to show that Mr. Stone or any other minister, or the majority of any church, at the time of the Hartford contentions, were in favor of such a latitude in admitting members to communion. The council at Boston in 1657, which approved of "owning the covenant" were decisive against receiving any to full communion except those who manifested faith

Note.

a. In 1670, the second church in Hartford, ~~now the south church~~, was formed by "strict congregationalists" who had been members of the first church. Their sentiments were decidedly secular to those of the planters of Hadley. They complained of oppression by preaching & practice to the congregational way, ~~and the [illegible] of the gospel the ancient paths of~~ This is now the South church in Hartford. The first church is that under the pastoral care of Rev Dr. Hawes.

and repentance. It may be doubted whether Alstone differed much from Elder Goodwin & the minority on the question of full church membership. There was a limited kind of church membership recognized by the Cambridge Platform, and by the synods of 1657 and 1662. All baptized children were deemed members of the church & under its watch, though not permitted to partake of the Lord's Supper. There may have been some disagreement & dispute in regard to such members.

3. The rights of the brotherhood. Trumbull says "Mr. Stone's ideas of congregationalism appear to have bordered more on presbyterianism, and less on independence, than those of the first ministers in the country in general." These ideas of Mr. Stone, with actions in some degree corresponding, will account for much of the controversy at Hartford. He was probably considered by the minority as claiming too much power, and encroaching upon the rights of the brethren. The Cambridge Platform was favorable to the power of the brethren — more so than later church constitutions.

The papers containing the chief points upon which the parties differed, their grievances and complaints, and the decisions of the councils that were called to compose their differences, have not been preserved, except the account of the proceedings of the last council in 1654. Indeed, the progress of the controversy is nearly as obscure as its origin. Councils from the neighboring churches convened about 1654 and 1655 to reconcile the parties, but without effect. In June 1656, a council from the churches about Boston met at Hartford and gave their advice. The aggrieved minority seemed willing to comply, but the church did not submit to the advice given. The same council from Massachusetts was again invited to Hartford, ~~again~~, and they went the latter part of April 1657, and succeeded in effecting an agreement which was called a "Pacification", on the 3d of May. For reasons which do not appear, there ~~was very~~ soon followed what was called a relapse — a breach of the pacification, and each party accused the other of violating it. The parties became more embittered and alienated than before. Mr Stone and the church undertook to deal with some of the principal men

in the minority, viz. Governor Webster, Mr. Bacon and William Lewis. After this, the minority ~~aggrieved~~ formally withdrew from the church, and were about forming a union with the church at Wethersfield under Mr. John Russel. This withdrawal appears to have taken place in the latter part of 1657 or in the early part of 1658. Mr. Stone and the church were proceeding with the withdrawers in a course of discipline, when the General Court interfered, in March 1658, and prohibited the church from proceeding ~~in a course of discipline~~, and forbid the withdrawers to join with the church at Wethersfield, or any other church, until

It was apparently in the early part of 1658, that the minority of the church began to think seriously of removing to the colony of Massachusetts. They sent men up the river to view the lands east and north of Northampton, and then applied to the General Court of Massachusetts for a grant of land; they were favorably received, and obtained what they desired. In the spring of 1659, an agreement was formed, and it was determined to begin the plantation that season. In their grant from Massachusetts was a

Note

a. Trumbull supposes that three councils from Massachusetts met at Hartford, viz. one in 1656, one June 3d 1659, and one Aug. 19. 1659; ~~and~~ he omits the council that made the pacification, in May 1657. ~~There were three~~ ~~councils from Massachusetts, two of which met at Hartford, viz. one in June 1656, one in May 1657. The third met in Boston, Sept. 26, 1659.~~ ~~No council from Massachusetts met at Hartford in 1659.~~ Trumbull had not seen the proceedings of the council at Boston in 1659, ~~in~~ which they ~~refer to~~ mention the other ~~other~~ ~~councils~~ or perhaps ~~in~~ he transfers its transactions to the supposed council of June 3. 1659. There was no council at Hartford Aug. 19 1659, but there was one at Boston Sept 26. 1659, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ separate proceedings ~~[illegible]~~ in which ~~they~~ mention the other ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~

condition, that they should submit to an orderly hearing of the differences between themselves and their brethren. The former council from Massachusetts, with an addition from two more churches, were invited to meet at Hartford on the 19th of August 1659. ~~Mr Richard Mather of Dorchester declined~~ The church at Dorchester declined sending their minister, Mr. Richard Mather, "in regard to his age and the difficulties of the journey," but intimated that they would afford their help if the meeting were somewhere in the Bay. It was finally agreed ~~arranged~~ that the ~~meeting~~ council should meet in Boston on the 26th of September. They heard the grievances, blamed both parties, and proposed terms of reconciliation, which were accepted, ~~and peace was restored~~. After this the churches of Hartford and Hadley held communion with each other. ~~They had long before lost sight of the original differences but now the~~ Their grievances presented to this Council had all happened since the pacification of May 1657. There was no allusion to the former subjects of controversy, a

~~Thanksgiving~~

The General Court of Connecticut in appointing the annual Thanksgiving in November 1659, mention as one reason for thanks, "the success of the under-work of the reverend elders of the last council, for composing the sad differences at Hartford" &c.

(over leaf.)

[illegible] to which [illegible] of preceding page

This reconciliation caused much joy in many ~~other~~ churches. On the 23d of October, 1659, Mr Mather recited to the Church in Dorchester, the determination of the council, "and the loving acceptance there by both parties, with their readiness to make confession of the failings of each to the other, for which we ought to give God the praise." ~~says~~ ~~the~~ Dorchester Church Records. a

[The Council held at Boston Sept 26. 1659 — The proceedings can be copied from the latter on p of Massachusetts No. 3.

(Brevier.)

The Council of 1659. The result of this council is among the papers of the Massachusetts Historical Society. It is a long document, & not easily read. What follows is only an abstract, containing the substance of the decision.

The council held at Boston, &c (see book p. 362

a. Dorchester Church records.

Note

a. John Hollister, usually called "the Lieutenant," was an influential man in Wethersfield. His daughter Sarah married Rev. Hope Atherton, the first minister of Hatfield; and after his death, she married Timothy Baker, of Northampton.

Wethersfield experienced various vicissitudes, and most of the ~~first~~ early settlers removed to other towns, and their places were supplied by new comers. After a few years, the inhabitants became more stable and prosperous, and the village contained many intelligent and thriving men. Mr. Henry Smith, their minister died in 1648, after preaching there ~~about~~ eight or ten years. Mr. John Russel succeeded him in 1649. He and a number of the church ~~seemed to~~ entertained opinions in unison with those of the minority at Hartford, while others seemed to sympathize with the majority. There was some difficulty at Wethersfield in 1658, and a complaint was presented to the Gen. Court against Mr. Russel in August. A few months after this, Lieut. John Hollister was excommunicated by the church. In March 1659 he complained ~~of irregularity in the proceedings of the church, and the General Court sent men to the church to examine him and affirm~~ that the charges against him had not been presented to him. The Gen. Court acquainted Mr. Russel ~~to del~~ and the church to deliver to him a copy of the charges; and they desired the church to consider the matter & conclude upon some way to issue their said differences.

~~Russel had left the town at Hadley~~
The town, ~~had voted, as before, in~~
December 1658, ~~voted~~ that they had no settled
minister among them; and on the 24th of March, ~~of~~ 1659,
they chose a committee "to procure a
solid & approved minister". The committee
were to consult Gov. Wells, who resided in
Wethersfield, and Mr. Stone of Hartford.
On the 2d of May, 1659 the town ~~voted~~ chose another committee to engage a minister,
"Seeing it is commonly reported that Mr Russel hath
sent for his church to Norwotuck, to
do some church act, whereby the town
is wholly destitute." In June, 1659,
the General Court judged it to be the duty of the
inhabitants of Wethersfield to provide a minister.
It appears from these proceedings that
Mr Russell preached in Wethersfield until some
time in April, 1659, though the town voted that
they had no settled minister, some months previous.
A majority of the town were opposed to him,
but a majority of the church seem to have ~~con-~~
adhered to him. ~~agreed with him to dismiss to Norwotuck~~. In October
1659, the Gen. Court, ~~referr~~ referring to the long and tedious dif-
ferences & troubles between Mr Russell and several
members of Wethersfield church, particularly
between Mr Russell ~~and~~ the lieutenant, ~~[illegible]~~
desired the churches of Hartford & Windsor to send
messengers to Wethersfield to give advice

When the ministers and a majority of the churches of Dorchester and Cambridge changed their residence to Windsor and Hartford, no installing act and no new organization was deemed necessary; and it might be inferred that Mr Russel was not invested with office, nor his church reorganized at Hadley. Yet Farmer's Genealogical Register, &c

(See bottom of next page.)

When a pastor and his church changed their place of residence together no installing act was deemed necessary. These churches all left minorities behind.

and counsel. "And the whole church belonging to Mr Russel's charge, lately of Wethersfield, are to be acquainted herewith." The meeting was held at Wethersfield on the first Tuesday in November. The result of this council is not known. In March 1661 the Gen. Court ordered that divers members of the church at Wethersfield had removed from thence without notice to, or advice from the court magistrates or churches of that colony; those still remaining there were declared by the Court to be the true and acknowledged ~~to be the true and~~ church of Wethersfield.

It may be concluded from expressions in the records and other circumstances, that a majority of the Wethersfield church members settled at Pomwotuck with Mr. Russell. The church was not large. Goodwin, in his Foote Genealogy, states that early in the spring of 1659, all the members of the church, except six, voted for a removal. The General Court of Massachusetts, so careful to have the Hartford men separate from the church in an orderly ~~manner~~ manner, never suggested that there was any irregularity in the conduct of the Wethersfield members ~~[illegible]~~ who settled in Hadley.

Farmer's Genealogical Register says Mr. Russell was installed in Hadley. The correctness of this remark may be doubted. ~~What~~ It is believed that the "church act" at H[illegible], whatever it may have been, was not an act in which ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ the aid or concurrence of any other church was sought. When a minister and a majority of the church changed their residence, no installing act was deemed necessary.

how is what oppos.

6 Tuesday.

Chapter 11.

Application to Massachusetts for land. Encouragement to remove to Massachusetts. Committee to survey a town at Norwottuck; their return not accepted. Proceedings of the first settlers in 1659 and 1661. Settlers on the west side of the river. Courts & Justice. The new town named Hadley.

Chapter II. Application to Massachusetts for land. Agreement to remove to Massachusetts, laying out of Hadley not accepted.

Capt John Cullick and Elder William Goodwin two prominent men among the withdrawers (as they were then denominated) went to Boston and presented the following petition to the General Court, May 20, 1658.

"Whereas your most humble servants, the subscribers with several others of the colony of Connecticut, do conceive that it may be most for the comfort of them and theirs to remove themselves & families from thence, and to come under your pious and godly government, if the Lord shall please so to order it, and yourselves to accept it. We do presume to present this our humble motion to your wisdom's consideration, whether we may, without offence, view any tract of land unpossessed within your colony, in order to such an end, and in case we can present anything that may be to the encouraging of a considerable company to take up a plantation, either at Nonotuck or elsewhere, we may have your gracious allowance to dispose ourselves there; or in case that be not, then within any of your settled plantations, as the wise God shall direct us and shew unto us; we being first of all presume to tender ourselves first to you, which if you shall please to grant, we hope through the grace of Christ, our conversations among you shall be without offence; so committing you and all your weighty affairs to the guidance and blessing of the Lord, we rest,

Yours in all due observance,

Boston 20th, 3d, 1658. [or May 20. 1658.]

John Cullick,
Will. Goodwin.

Pica

Brenier

Their request was granted in the following terms, —

"In answer to the petition of Capt. Cullick and Mr. Wm. Goodwin, in behalf of themselves and others, the Court judgeth meet to grant their request, in reference to lands not already granted, and further give them liberty to inhabit in any part of our jurisdiction not already planted, provided they submit themselves to a due & orderly hearing of the differences between themselves and their brethren."

Consented to by both Magistrates & Deputies, May 25. 1658.

Barriers

In the same year 1658 some of the withdrawing ~~derived~~ propositions from Northampton in regard to Capawonk meadow, which belonged to that town: in October 1658, the town of Northampton voted to "give away" Capawonk on four conditions:— 1st. The Hartford men are to settle two plantations, one on each side of the river. 2d. They are to maintain a sufficient fence against hogs & cattle. 3d They are to pay 10 pounds in wheat and peas. 4th They are to inhabit here by next Mayes.

This meadow is now the most southern or south-western meadow in Hatfield, adjoining Northampton. ~~was included in the original grant of Northampton~~ The people ~~[illegible]~~ of Northampton, ~~[illegible]~~ living in the wilderness were anxious to have neighbors, & this induced them to part with ~~[illegible]~~ valuable meadow.

The land from Mount Holyoke on the south to Mount Tom on the north, extending 9 miles eastward from Connecticut river, was purchased of the Indian sachems by John Pynchon for those who intended to settle there, on the 25th of December, 1658. That on the west side of the river was not purchased until June 10, 1660.

The agreement or engagement of those who intended to remove from Connecticut to the Massachusetts, ~~is~~ dated at Hartford, April 18. 1659, and is recorded on the first book of Hadley records. The following is a copy of that agreement or of some proceedings by a Latin day preceding with the other.

"At a meeting at Goodman Ward's house, in Hartford, April 18th, 1659, the company there met engaged themselves under their own hands, or by their deputies, whom they had chosen, to remove themselves and families out of the jurisdiction of Connecticut into the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts, as may appear in a paper dated the day and year aboveesaid. The names of the engagers are these:—

[The names & all the rest of the agreement must be copied by the printer from my book 'Hadley, Hatfield, &c" — about the middle of the book page 175. 176. 177

ai There are 59 names to the agreement, and one not fully engaged. Of these 31 first named from John Webster to Andrew Warner inclusive, belonged to Hartford, ~~Connecticut~~ Samuel Porter who was from Windsor but may have resided in Hartford in 1659. The next 20, from the Ten Counsel, Nos to John Lattimer inclusive, belonged to Wethersfield; the next two, Peter Tilton & John Hawks, were of Windsor, and the seven below + Hawks were of Hartford. Those with this mark X. 18 in number, did not remove to Hadley, or remained time but a short time.

The General Court, on the 28th of May, 1659, appointed a committee of five, viz. three from Springfield and two from Northampton, to lay out the bounds of a town, according to the grant made May 25. 1658. The order follows, copied from the printed records of the Colony, and retaining the original orthography, except a few contractions.

Copy the order from the Printed Records Vol IV. part I p 368, beginning, "Whereas it hath appeared" &c

The preamble of the order shows clearly that the Court deemed these emigrants from Connecticut to be estimable men, and a valuable acquisition to the colony. It also ~~confirmed the opinion~~ shows that the church at Wethersfield, (that is, a majority of its members) were about to ~~accompany~~ remove with their pastor. The other minister alluded to was Mr. Samuel Hooker, son of Mr. Thomas Hooker, of Hartford. He was then preaching at Springfield. In the agitation at Hartford, he appears to have harmonized in opinion with the minority of the church.

Chapter II

~~The first~~ Proceedings of the first settlers in 1659 and 1660.
~~1659~~ West side of the River.

All the transactions of 1659 that are recorded, may be found on pages ~~[illegible]~~. It may be presumed ~~safely inferred from the agreement of April 18, 1659 and subsequent proceedings~~, that the broad street and homelots were laid out in 1659; that a number of the engagers "came up to inhabit at the said plantation", in 1659, and built rude dwellings, where they lived during the next winter. ~~of 1659-60~~. Who, or how many, passed the winter there, cannot be known. The seven men, chosen Nov. 9. 1659, "to order all public occasions", and called townsmen, were at the new plantation and made a rate, Nov. 22. 1659, ~~(Dec. 8, N.S.) and sent it down to Hugh and Wathanspiel. For~~ and they, or a majority of them, probably wintered there with others, ~~or at least a majority of them~~. One of these townsmen, Thomas Stanley, made his will Jan. 29. 1659-60, ~~in~~ which he disposed of his house and land, "that are here at the new plantation", proving conclusively that he then lived in the new town.

No record whatever remains of their doings in 1660, previous to the 8th of October, and it may be concluded that no public business was performed that required a register.

~~1660~~

No record whatever remains of their doings in 1660. previous to the 8th of October; and it may be concluded that ~~there were~~ no public business was performed that needed a register. On the 8th of October, 1660, a Town meeting, so called, was held at the house of Andrew Warner, and it was voted: — That no person should be owned for an inhabitant, or have liberty to vote or act in town affairs, until he should be legally received as an inhabitant — That all who sit down on the west side of the river, shall be one with those on the east side, in both ecclesiastical and civil matters, that are common to the whole; they paying all charges from their engagement, and all purchase-charges from the beginning. Those admitted for inhabitants on the west side of the river, are to be "inhabiting there in houses of their own by Michaelmas next," (Sept. 29, 1661,) and to sign an engagement by themselves, or some others for them. The votes or agreement ~~adopted~~ at this meeting were signed by 28 persons, viz. John Webster, William Goodwin, John Crow, Nathaniel Ward, John White, Andrew Bacon, William Lewis, William Westwood, Richard Goodman, Thomas Standley, Samuel Porter, Ozias Goodwin, John Alewsh, William Markham, Samuel Moody, Zechariah Field, Andrew Warner, Mr John Russell, Junr. Nathaniel Dickinson, Samuel Smith, Thomas Coleman, John Dickinson, Philip Smith, Thomas Wells, Thomas Dickinson, Richard Montague, Peter Tilton, Richard Billing.

These 28 persons were perhaps all the engagers, thirty ~~of families the first settlers~~, the new town, and included some who had not removed their families from Connecticut. ~~Ozias Goodwin~~

Most of those who wished to settle on the west side of the river, signed an engagement for themselves, or their friends for them, ~~if they were absent~~, to be dwellers there before Sept. 29. 1661. Some signed at the meeting, Oct. 8th, others Nov. 1st, and some in January, February or March 1661. ~~All with~~ Twenty five persons manifested an intention ~~to live on that side of the river previous to~~ before March 25. 1661, ~~[illegible] 25, [illegible]~~ to establish themselves on that side of the river, in the new town, viz, Aaron Cooke, Thomas Meekins, William Allis, Nathaniel Dickinson Jr. John Coleman, Isaac Graves (with his father, Thomas Graves), John Graves, Samuel Belding, Stephen Taylor, John White Jr. Daniel Warner, Richard Fellows, Richard Billing, Edward Benton, Mr Ritchell (with his son), Ozias Goodwin, Zechariah Field, Lieut Thomas Bull, Gregory Willterton, Nathaniel Porter, Daniel White, William Pitkin, John Cole, Samuel Church, Samuel Dickinson. ~~Of these 25 persons~~ Of these 25 persons, Aaron Cooke and Samuel Church did not remove to the west side of the river; ~~and~~ Edward Benton, Ozias Goodwin, Lt Bull, Gregory Willterton and William Pitkin, ~~did not remove~~ continued to reside at ~~from~~ Hartford, ~~Mr Ritchell or Richall was of Westfield~~ Nathaniel Porter ~~remained~~ at Windsor, and Mr. Ritchell or Richall remained some years at Withersfield. ~~Thirteen~~ Sixteen were permanent residents on the west side.

Two of these signers, Thomas Meekins and William Allis, ~~came from Braintree, and they are the only first planters in the town that can~~ belonged to the Massachusetts Colony, and lived at Braintree.

During the years 1659 and 1660, no permanent distribution of lands was made in the intervals or meadows. Men tilled parcels of the common lands, temporarily assigned to them. It was uncertain how many of the engagers would become actual settlers. The grants to Mr. Bradstreet and others may have discouraged some; various things operated to dissuade others from the undertaking, and in the course of two years, many had changed their minds. New applicants appeared to supply their places, and there was no lack of settlers.

The General Court at May session 1658, order that two Courts should be kept yearly by the

County similar to County County were ordered, in May 1658 by the General Court, in May 1658 to be kept yearly at Springfield the last Tuesday of March, and at Northampton the last Tuesday September. They were held by the Springfield Commissioners. In Oct 1659, ~~the new town was included, placed under the Commissioners, the~~ it was ordered as follows, concerning freemen and the new town:—

"Those made freemen here, & who removed to Connecticut, & have now returned to this colony, are still freemen here, without any further oath. Those in the plantations on Connecticut River, who are not freemen, but capable by law to become so, are to be sworn by the Springfield Commissioners. The new town is to be under the power of the Springfield commissioners in regard to County Courts, till further order.

Brewer

~~At the~~ May 31 ~~1660~~ 1660. Mr John Webster, of the new town at Norwottuck, is by this Court commissionated with magistratical power for the year ensuing, to act in all civil and criminal cases as one magistrate may do. He is to join the ~~[Springfield]~~ Commissioners in keeping the courts.

Brewer

Mr John Webster, and the three Springfield Commissioners, viz. Capt John Pynchon Mr Samuel Chapin and Eliezer Holyoke, held a Court at Springfield Sept 25. 166. and another at Northampton, March 26. 166. ~~On the same~~ On this same 26th of March, the Springfield Commissioners were at "Newtown or Norwotuck (so they call the place) and the following persons took the freeman's oath before them, viz.

Mr John Webster, Mr John Russell, Nathan Ward, William Markham, Thomas Dickinson, Andrew Bacon, Thomas Wells, John Hubbard, Nathaniel Dickinson, Philip Smith, Thomas Coleman, Robert Bottwood, Samuel Gardner, Peter Tilton. There were others who had been made freemen in Massachusetts before they removed to Connecticut.

Jurors from the New Town attended the March Court. 1661. for the first time, viz Andrew Warner, William Lewis, John White, Samuel Smith.

Mr. Webster, ~~an eminent man, to both colonies~~ an eminent man, died on the 5th of April, a few days after this Court. ~~While he lived, he was the first man in the~~

At a meeting, May 11. 1661. it was voted that all the freemen should meet at the house of Goodman Lewis "upon the next 2d day", (meaning the second day, or Monday, of the next week) with a committee, to consider of some things to present to the General Court, this month.

~~The paper presented to the Court has not been preserved.~~
~~At the May Session, 1661, the General Court ordered as follows:—~~
~~"On the motion of the inhabitants of the new plantation near Northampton" &c.~~
~~(copy from Book 1. 9th page — all the article.~~

Some things agreed upon at that meeting, may be inferred from the following order of the General Court, ~~at~~ May 22, ~~Session~~, 1661, copied from the printed records
"On the motion of the inhabitants of the new plantation near Northampton," &c
~~(copy from Book 1 9th page, all the article)~~
[copy from the Colony Records, S. 2 IV. part II. pages 11. 12

This place, previously denominated the new town, the new plantation, or Nonotuck, was by this preceding act named Hadley, ~~at the same time it was made a town~~ ~~inhabitants~~ The old towns in ~~New England~~ Massachusetts were not made legal bodies by any regular act of incorporation. ~~The mere naming a place, or declaring it a town~~ A few words, declaring a place to be a town, & giving it a name, ~~seem to have~~ conferred all the powers & privileges of a town; and in ~~several~~ some instances, the mere naming of a place ~~in the incorporation~~ seems to have been equivalent to an act of incorporation. In regard to the new plantation, the records of the General Court furnish no evidence that

and the incorporation of the town is commonly dated from this year

Springfield and Northampton ever were incorporated, even in the concise manner of those days.

~~Hadley at the time it was named, had no established boundaries~~

Hadley was named from Hadley in and Northampton, no transaction of the General Court ~~can be found, which~~ is recorded, which can be called an incorporation.

Hadley, when it was named in 1661, had no established boundaries, ~~and were not fixed by the Court until Oct. 1663~~ on either side of the river. The first purchases of the Indians had been made, viz ~~Terms of the first purchase next page but one~~ ~~one~~ on the east side Dec. 25. 1658, and ~~two~~ on the west side in 1660. The three purchases cost the inhabitants 150 pounds.

[Here insert what is ~~next~~ next page but one, or put that next above the last paragraph

On the 14th of December, 1660 the plantation elected 5 Townsmen who were the first chosen by those who resided at the new place. They were Andrew Bacon [illegible] Nath. [illegible]

Hadley chose five townsmen in December 1660, and these men held the office 13 months, though what is deemed an act of incorporation took place about 5 months after they were chosen. Others continued in office without new choice.

Nathaniel Dickinson was chosen Town Clerk Dec 17 1660, the first recorded clerk of the new town, was chosen Dec 17, 1660, and he continued in the office until Sept 1661.

The judicial power conferred upon the Hadley commissioners under the 2 and 3 heads, in the order of May 1661, was unusual, and it was abrogated and made void in 1663. The commissioners of the three towns were empowered in 1661 to hold courts at Springfield and Northampton, but the Northampton and Hadley commissioners do not appear as judges of these courts until March 31. 1663.

27½ [Put this 2 pages back or 26½

Hadley was named from ~~Hadley in~~ Hadleigh ~~the county of Suffolk, in England~~ or Hadley a town in England in the County of Suffolk, situated on the small river Berton, a branch of the Stour, ~~It is~~ a few miles west of Ipswich and east of Sudbury. It is not far from the northern boundary of ~~Essex county~~ Essex, the county from which ~~came~~ many of the early settlers of Hartford. ~~When Camden wrote, about 1600 Hadleigh was famous for making woollen cloths. Its Saxon name was Head Leg, according to Camden~~ The Saxon name of Hadleigh was Headleye, according to Camden. When he wrote, about 1600, it was famous for making woollen cloths. In 1841 the population was 2342.

It may be conjectured that some of the first planters ~~of Hadley came~~ of Hadley ~~in Essex about~~ came from ~~Hadley~~ the town of Hadleigh in England, ~~perhaps~~. No record remains to ~~make it~~ show who they were. The name in the town and county records is sometimes written Hadleigh.

Chapter III.

Difficulties arising from Grants to Mr. Bradstreet and Maj. Denison.

The General Court in 1653 when they appointed a committee to divide the land at Norwotuck into two plantations, evidently contemplated a plantation on the eastern, ~~side of the river~~, as well as one on the western side of the river. Yet through a fatal carelessness ~~or~~ inattention, or ignorance of this part of the colony, the General Court in May 1657, permitted Mr. Simon Bradstreet, to whom it had previously granted 700 acres, to take up his grant on the eastern side of Connecticut River, in the vicinity of Northampton. They also ~~granted~~ to Maj. Daniel Denison 500 acres, and to Mr. Samuel Symonds, 300 acres, near Mr Bradstreet. Gen. Humphrey Atherton also had a grant of 500 acres "at Nonotucke beyond Springfield" May 26. 1658.

There were no deputies present from Springfield and Northampton in 1657 and 1658, and those from the eastern towns knew very little about this remote region of "Nonotucke beyond Springfield." ~~part of the colony~~ But those individuals who obtained grants of land near this river, were not ignorant of the value, and not unmindful of their own interests.

On the 27th of May, 1659, after ~~After the General Court~~ it was ascertained that the Connecticut people were about to remove to Norwotuck, the Deputies passed the following vote, ~~and~~ the Magistrates consented:—

The Court have granted to Mr. Bradstreet, Mr Symonds, Maj. Gen. Denison and Maj. Atherton

each of them, a farm, which they intended to lay upon Connecticut River, above Springfield; but as the taking it [illegible] will be very prejudicial to the new plantation, now going on there, which this court is very willing to encourage, the Deputies desire the four Magistrates to find out some other place to take their farms in, and if it shall not be equal in respect to quality, it may be made up in quantity.

In November 1654, the Court added 200 acres to Mr Thorton's grant, and he took the 700 acres at Warranoke, ~~and in May 1660, the other from~~ On the 31st of May 1660.

~~In May 1660~~, the Court added to Mr Bradstreet's grant 300 acres, to Mr Simonds's 100 acres, and to Maj. Gen. Denison's 300 acres, in consideration of their having resigned their former grants, for the accommodation of the new town. And they had liberty to take up their lands in any place on the west side of the river, "provided it be full six miles from the place now intended for Northampton meeting house, upon a straight line"; or they might take their ~~land~~ grants elsewhere in unappropriated lands. Mr Bradstreet was to have the first choice.

Mr Simonds took his land elsewhere; ~~gave further no trouble~~, but Mr. Bradstreet determined to take 500 of his 1000 acres on the west side of the river; and Maj. Gen. Denison, 500 of his 800 acres, near Mr Bradstreet.

Hadley did not complain ~~of the~~ of the decision of the General Court, ~~being satisfied to have their north line, on the east side of the river, "full six miles from Northampton meeting house, in a straight line"~~ and Mr Bradstreet did not apparently manifest any dissatisfaction for about two years, but after he was sent to England as an agent of the colony, his son Samuel Bradstreet sent a petition to the General Court at the May session, 1662, stating that ~~the General Court, stating that~~ his father had chosen 500 acres on the west side of Connecticut River, betwixt 5 and 6 miles in a straight line from Northampton meeting house, "being for the most part compassed about with a great brook, a long pond or ponds and Connecticut River". He requested a confirmation of this land for his father, and said some flimsy arguments to show that his father ought to have it, though he had not gone 6 miles from Northampton meeting house. First, Because it is 6 or 7 miles from said meeting house, the nearest way it can be ridden or gone on foot. 2d. That which the Newtown [Hadley] men wrested from his father was twice or thrice as good as this. 3d. Some part of the land is undoubtedly 6 miles from said meeting house in a straight line, & it was accidental that the restraint to 6 miles was put into the grants. 4th. It will not be prejudicial to the

town that has so large an extent of land, the 500 acres being but little to 70 or 80,000 acres which the town contains.[a]

It is hardly to be supposed that the Magistrates were much influenced by such arguments ~~as these~~ mustered to do Mr. Bradstreet a favor, and yet they were willing that he ~~Mr. Bradstreet~~ should have the land ~~desired~~ he desired for.

The Deputies did not consent, but said the grant ~~land~~ should begin full 6 miles from Northampton meeting house, as before ordered.

The subject was again presented to the Court at the October session, 1662, and the Deputies "~~being very tender of Mr. Bradstreet's right, and yet willing that Hadley should have their bounds settled~~" ~~appointed a committee to measure the 6 miles in a straight line, and~~ gave Mr. Bradstreet ~~liberty to take~~ his 500 acres north of the 6 miles. The Magistrates did not consent to this, but gave Mr. Bradstreet the land where he desired it, south of the 6 miles line, and the Deputies finally ~~consented to their~~ agreed with them, the deputies did not manifest as much perseverence as in some other cases, when contending with the Magistrates or Upper House; and thus was consummated an act which Hadley justly ~~judged~~ noted to be one of great injustice towards them; it was directly contrary to the order of May 31. 1660.

[a] Samuel Bradstreet knew that ~~some of the~~ these extensive tracts were admirable uplands which he and others estimated of very little value. The 500 acres which he obtained included near a fourth part of all the intervale on both sides of the river. It was the intervale that attracted settlers to Hadley and other river towns, not the uplands.

This decision produced much excitement in Hadley. The land now granted to Mr Bradstreet was an important interval or meadow, from which the settlers on the west side of the river had received, or were to receive, ~~had received~~, a large portion of their interval land. It was called the Higher Meadow, the North Meadow, and the Great Meadow. Its boundaries still are ~~said~~ brooks, bounds and the river, and the southern part is within about a mile of Hatfield meeting house. It included near a fourth part of all the interval on both sides of the river.

At the next General Court, May 1663, earnest petitions were sent from the church and town of Hadley, and one from Northampton in behalf of Hadley. They all believed that the act giving the Great Meadow to Mr Bradstreet was not equitable ~~unrighteous, unjust, contrary to~~

"The Church of Christ in Hadley", in their petition, say "we ask only what we have a right unto, derived from yourselves". They refer to the encouragement at first given by the Court for them to settle at Hadley, and to the subsequent order requiring the gentlemen who had grants not to come within six miles of Northampton Meeting House. They request that this order may stand sure and stedfast. They estimate the interval given to Mr Bradstreet, at "about one fourth part of their serviceable land". They

Brewer

[The Church in Hadley sent a petition to the Court, in 1663 which is in Ecclesiastical Massachusetts No 2. Muf go in, shortened & altered from what it now is, conclude with these words:—"the thing is likely to leave the house of God unfurnished amongst us as well as our civil society". The petition is signed by John Russell, Pastor; Will. Goodwin, Ruling Elder; Nathaniel Dickinson and Peter Tilton, deacons, in the name of the church. ~~These were all the officers of the church of Hadley in 1663.~~

At the May Session, 1663, Henry Clarke, Andrew Bacon and William Westwood, in the name of the town of Hadley, requested the General Court to lend a listening ear to their cry, occasioned by their present necessity and distress, hazarding the undoing and ruin of their comforts & well being, &c. And they subjoined a declaration about the bounds of their town, part of which follows:-

The Declaration of the inhabitants of Hadley, sheweth:- "That we, the undertakers of the plantation now called Hadley, &c.

[Here insert the Declaration in full down to No 1. The rest of it is abridged, & must be abridged still more, & put in a better shape. See Towns in Massachusetts Vol. 1.]

Northampton was deeply interested in the prosperity of these new settlements, ~~especially that on the west side of the river,~~ being very desirous of neighbors, ~~especially on the west side of the river,~~ on both sides of the river. A petition was therefore signed by 35 of the inhabitants of Northampton, in favor of the people of Hadley, May 19, 1663, and presented to the General Court. The following are extracts from this petition:-

"We desire not to multiply words to your trouble in such a case", &c.

[Insert all on this page. See Towns, in Mass. Vol. 1. p. 147]

Mr. Broadstreet, on the 11th of June 1663, sent to the Court a protest against the claims of Hadley, and referred to the decision in his favor in October, 1662.

At the October session, 1663, the south line of Major Denison's farm was fixed at an oak tree, at the side of a great plain, near a swamp, about six miles from Northampton meeting house; the line to run east and west from the oak tree; ~~and~~ to extend to the north one mile on the river, and then west from the river far enough to make 500 acres.

The south line of this farm seems to have been then considered the north line of Hadley on the west side of the river, Mr Bradstreet's farm being included in the township.

~~[illegible] the boundary.~~ At the October Session 1663, the north bound of Hadley on the west side of the river, was fixed at an oak tree or stake at the side of a great plain, near a swamp, being about 6 miles from Northampton meeting house; the line to run east and west from this stake. Maj. Denison's farm ~~[illegible]~~ was to be bounded by this line on the south, ~~and to be one mile in width, and in length north & south~~ and to extend one mile to the north, and then west from the river far enough to make 500 acres. Mr. Holyoke, of Springfield, and Lieut. Walton, of Northampton, were appointed to lay out this farm.

(The following to go in above, not as a note)

p. The court evidently did not intend by this appointment to disturb Mr Bradstreet but only to include his farm within the bounds of ~~Hadley~~ the town of Hadley provided it was within the 6 miles.

P The lands had been so allotted on both sides of the river, that it became necessary to purchase Mr Bradstreet's farm, even at a high price, in order to give the planters on the west side, their proportion of meadow land. In April 1664, Lieut Samuel Smith was empowered by the town to purchase this farm, but he was not to exceed [illegible] pounds. Mr Bradstreet would not sell for this sum. ~~200 pounds but demanded in addition 1000~~ 200 pounds, and 1000 acres of land lying north of Denison's farm, if it could be obtained. Lieut Smith was under the necessity of petitioning the Gen. Court ~~[illegible]~~ at the May Session 1664, for a grant of 1000 acres to Hadley, to enable them to pay Mr. Bradstreet. The Court granted the petition, Hadley paid the 200 pounds in 1664 and 1665, ~~[illegible]~~ Mr Bradstreet for his original grant of 700 acres, received 200 pounds, in exchange for those lands, 1000 acres of land upon Connecticut river, some of it valuable, and 500 acres elsewhere in the colony. The 1000 acres is now in Whately.

* The Denison Farm and this second Bradstreet Farm are well known to the people of Hatfield & Whately. A tract of land now called Bashan, lying south of the Denison Farm, was not included in ~~any private grant or division~~ Bradstreet's tract.

Division of Lands — (to go before the preceding
~~Internal or allotted lands.~~
~~Other lands.~~

The fathers of New England intended that every man should have the means of obtaining a share of the comforts of life; and for this end, lands were granted in townships, and provision made for their distribution among the inhabitants. The manner in which the lands were to be apportioned, was seldom prescribed by the General Court, and in making allotments, no uniform rule was observed, but the lands were variously ~~proportioned~~ distributed in different towns, and even in the same town.

There was a regulation of the Governor and Company of Massachusetts Bay, made in London, in 1629, which gave to each adventurer of 50 pounds in the common stock, 200 acres of land, and he was to have 50 acres for each person he should transport over, at his own expense, to inhabit there; and each person not an adventurer, who should transport himself & family, was to have 50 acres, and as much more as should be thought necessary. It does not appear that this order had much influence in the divisions of land by the towns. Some of the adventurers had grants from the General Court.

In many towns, house lots nearly equal were given to ~~all~~ the early planters, without respect to ~~the~~ their ~~families~~ or estate, ~~or number of the family~~. But in determining the share of ~~other~~ lands which each person should

receive, regard was had to both persons and property, and there was of course much inequality in the allotments. Ministers, and in some places a few besides them, received land from other considerations. Town records generally show the number of acres which each man received, but how many he had on account of his estate, and how many on account of himself, his sons, &c. can seldom be ascertained.

In some divisions of land made in towns in the vicinity of Boston in 1637 and 1638, the largest portion was only four times as much the smallest; that is, the richest man had only four times as much land as the poorest, with a single exception in each division. Northampton, in her early divisions, gave to the head of a family 15 acres of meadow land for himself + 3 acres for each son, and 20 acres for 100 pounds of estate, or in that proportion. ~~The result was not very different~~. Springfield, in ~~1642 in~~ an apportionment in 1642 gave ~~8 acres~~ 8 rods in width to a single man, 10 to a married man, and 12 to a married man with a larger family, and nothing to estates. Other divisions were very different. At Hadley three of the principal men, Wm Pynchon, Elizur Holyoke and Henry Smith, had very large shares, a ~~[illegible]~~ Among the original proprietors of Hadley, the largest share was only four times greater than the smallest.

a. Wallingford in Connecticut was perhaps more liberal to men of small property than any other town. They state to the General Assembly in 1677, that they gave to the poorest single person as much land as might in an ordinary way serve for the comfortable maintenance of a family; and that the highest on the rate had only twice as much land as the lowest.

A much greater proportion of the people of the towns in Massachusetts and Connecticut, were freeholders and independent proprietors soon after their settlement, ~~of the~~ than at any subsequent period; and real estate was much more equally distributed then than it has ever been since. Church members had no advantage over others in the distribution of lands, and freemen had no greater shares than non-freemen.

The later divisions of large tracts of woodland were far more unequal than the early apportionments of more valuable land.

Interval or Meadow lands in Hadley.

Those who intended to remove to Hadley, agreed upon the manner of distributing the lands, before or at the meeting of April 18. 1659, and they had a list of the engagers, with the sum or estate that each put in, "to take up lands by." It appears by a "Preface" to the book of land records, that "according to the estate that any person or persons put in, if accepted, so they were proportionably to receive their accommodations or allotments." To each man's name was annexed a sum in pounds called estate, and these sums varied from 50 to 200 pounds; ~~consequently~~ there was ~~of course~~ of course the same difference in the "accommodations" of land.

These sums called estates, did not designate the real ~~actual~~ value of the engagers' ~~estates~~ estates, for some often were worth 10 times the sum set against their names; and a division made according to ~~the actual~~ the actual property, ~~would have~~ would have given to some 10 or 12 times as much land as to others. It may be presumed that heads of families and sons, & perhaps others were considered, as well as estates. ~~The distribution according to the sum~~ ~~proportion actually by the sum~~ The distribution of land according to these sums, seems to have been satisfactory to all, and their equity was never called in question.

Hartford had divided lands according to sums annexed to the names of the proprietors, and Hadley adopted the same course. It was a convenient method for distributing land and levying charges incurred for the same.

There were 48 proprietors (not including Aaron Cook), on the east side of Connecticut river, who had the whole of the interval land on that side, below Mill river, and about 360 acres on the west side. The town reserved a lot in each division, and is ~~included among~~ one of the 48 ~~proprietors~~. There were 47 ~~house lots on the east side of the river before 1663, each proprietor having one, except Samuel Chenery, who lived with his father, & had an equivalent for his home lot elsewhere.~~ These 48 ~~proprietors~~ ~~[illegible]~~ all received their lands according to the sums affixed to their names in the following list. They are arranged by house-rows (as they stood on the records) beginning at the town ~~end of the~~ house lot, or south ~~[illegible]~~ on the east side of the street, & proceeding to the north end, & then coming down on the west side. The numbers ~~[illegible]~~ in the second column of figures, exhibit the order of the lots in ~~Little Deerfield~~ Hockanum, as they were drawn ~~May 29. 1662~~ in March 1663, and the other ~~2 figures~~ show the ~~[illegible]~~ quantity of land in each lot. Aaron Cook ~~[illegible]~~ estate, and lands were not separate from Mr. Westwood.

	Pounds		No.	No.	Acres. qrs. rods
Mr John Russell, senr.	150.	..	25	18	6. 2. 29
Nathaniel Dickinson	200.	---	8	31	8. 3. 27
Thomas Dickinson	80	---	15	17	3. 2. 9
Mr. Wm. Westwood	200	---	16	11	8. 3. 26
Richard Goodman	140	—	48		6. 2. 23
William Lewis	150	—	14	10	6. 2. 29
Peter Tilton	100	--	34	3	4. 1. 33
John White	150	-	35	5	6. 2. 29
Thomas Stanley	125	--	39	16	5. 2. 11
Nathaniel Stanley	125	--	9	1	5. 2. 11
Andrew Bacon	125	....	41	42	5 2. 11
John Barnard	150	...		36	6. 2. 29

	Pounds	Lots.	No.	Acres.	gr.	rods
Mr. John Russell Jr.	150	44	6	6.	2.	29
The Town ~~Lot~~	150	17	4	6.	2.	29
John Hubbard	150	37	39	6.	2.	29
Thomas Wells	150	5	45	6.	2.	29
Samuel Porter	100	31	17.	4.	1.	33
John Dickinson	150	38	43	6.	2.	29
Richard Montague	80	42	43	3.	2.	9
Philip Smith	150	24	9.	6.	2.	29
Samuel Smith,	200	22	44	8.	3.	27
Thomas Coleman	200	28	28.	8.	3.	26
William Partridge	100	43	15	4.	1.	33
Adam Nicholls	50	41	29	2.	0.	36
John Taylor	40		12	2.	1.	31
John Ingram	40		30	1.	1.	32
William Pixley	40		2.	1.	1.	32
Samuel Gardner	70	29	46	3.	0.	9
Chileab Smith	100	26	32	4.	1.	33
Joseph Baldwin	150	6	34	6.	2.	29
Robert Bottwood	100	32	7	4.	1.	33
Francis Barnard	100	36	35	4.	1.	33
John Hawks	150	40	14	6.	2.	29
Richard Church	100	30	27	4.	1.	33
Samuel Church	50	21	26	2.	0.	36
Edward Church	80	33	28	3.	2.	9
Mr Henry Clarke	200	18	25	8.	3.	26
Mr Stephen Terry	200	2	8	8.	3.	26
Andrew Warner	200	1	21	8.	3.	26
John Marsh	100	12	41	4.	1.	33
Wm. & Thos. Webster, sons of John,	150	4	38	6.	2.	29
Timothy Nash	100	20	33	4.	1.	33
Mr. Wm. Goodwin	200	46	37	8.	3.	26
John Crowe	200	10	40	8.	3.	26
Samuel Moody	100	23	13	6.	2.	29
Nathaniel Ward	200	27	47	8.	3.	20
William Markham	50	45	14	2.	0.	36
Joseph Kellogg	100	13	22.	4.	1.	33

There are some errors in the acres of the 40£ proprietors; and Samuel Hoyt has too many acres.

of those having only 40 or 50 pounds, William Markham, and Adam Nicholls were men of small estates and small families; Samuel Church, John Taylor, John Ingram, and William Pixley were young, unmarried men. The last three did not apply for land in April 1662, and ~~it was granted in December, that year, in the first division that was made, there were only 46~~ 40 pound allotment were granted to them in December 1662, ~~proprietors, others took place~~, with ~~lots~~ small homelots.

When the first division was made Feb 28. 1661. there were ~~[illegible]~~ 46 proprietors, ~~[illegible]~~ None of these disappeared in 1661 and 1662, and 11 new names were added, making 48. ~~for others in that year or the next, and these were added.~~ These 9 were as follows:-

1. John Webster died in 1661, and his s. William & Thomas, took his place. (Considered as one proprietor)
2. Robert Webster did not come to Hadley, and the lands allotted to him were given to Timothy Nash, the blacksmith, in 1663.
3. Capt. Cullick removed to Boston, and Mr Henry Clarke, of Windsor, had his lands in 1661.
4. John Arnold did not settle in Hadley, and Chileab Smith had his homelot; & his meadow land went to others
5. Luke Hitchcock ~~of Wethersfield~~, one of the ~~signers of the~~ original ~~[illegible]~~ engagers of 1659, died in Wethersfield, Nov 1. 1659, lands were laid out for his widow, but she married ~~John~~ Warriner of Springfield in 1661, and did not settle in Hadley. Chileab Smith had her meadow land. Her homelot does not appear.
6. James Northam of Wethersfield, died in 1661, before he had removed to Hadley. ~~Land was laid out~~ Her widow had his lands, but she married Joseph Baldwin and most of the lands ~~stood in his name~~ were recorded to him
7. Mr Samuel Hooker was ordained at Farmington Nov. 6. 1661. and ~~his~~ lands intended for him were taken by the town & called town lots, and sometimes, ministry lots.
8. Richard Weller married the widow of Henry Curtis, of Northampton, in 1662, and left Hadley. John Taylor had his homelot, and John Ingram had some of his other land.
9. John Kellogg (spelled Kellick) was succeeded by Joseph Kellogg in 1661. Perhaps John was an error, and Joseph was meant.

The alluvial Meadows adjoining the Connecticut induced men to settle at Hadley, and no other lands except homelots were distributed at first. ~~some years after, and for some years, grants of upland were not asked for.~~ There were four Meadows upon the east side of the river, containing about 1200 acres that were allotted to the proprietors in 1661. 1662 & 1663, ~~containing about 1200 acres~~, viz.

I 1st. A tract of land north of the village, towards Mill river, ~~first denominated the little meadows, but~~ commonly called Forty Acre Meadow, or Forty Acres, ~~so named~~ for a parcel of land so named in Hartford South Meadow, ~~being the same~~. When distributed, it was estimated at about 67 acres. The real quantity was considerably more; for ~~it will be found on examination,~~ some received ~~three times as much as others for an equal~~ two acres for one.

II ~~1st~~ The Great Meadow, which includes all the land upon the peninsula or neck, west of the homelots. This meadow was divided into 177 pieces or lots, containing, ~~viz~~ the aggregate, according to the town measures, about 710 acres, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~a few~~ and averaging 4 acres each. There were three highways running west, ~~[illegible]~~ being continuations of the homelots ~~being continuations of those~~ highways, viz. ~~1st~~ the north highway, on the bank of the river, which ~~has long since~~ was washed away; ~~2d~~ the middle highway, which extended to Connecticut river; ~~3d~~ the South highway, which was on the bank of Maple Swamp, so called, and afterwards became the road to Northampton, but ~~[illegible]~~ not at first go through the meadow to the river. There was a meadow road running north & south, about 210 - 220 rods west of the homelots; and ~~about~~ near three fourths of a mile further west, in the north west part of the meadow, was another ~~[illegible]~~ north and south road. ~~There was also a meadow road the north highway [illegible]~~ by the side of the river. The north highway has been washed away, and much land south of it. The middle and South highways divided

the meadow into three oblong parcels, denominated furlongs in the records,[a] ~~(a singular use of the word furlong)~~, the north, middle ~~and south~~ furlongs, had each ~~two~~ rows, ranges or tiers of lots ~~south~~ most of the way, but for ~~some distance~~ in a tract called Pangulum only one tier; and the south furlong or maple swamp had but one tier. West of the eastern cross highway the south ~~two flat and the~~ furlong lots & those of the south range of the middle furlong were united & became one tier, across which the road to Northampton was subsequently laid. All the lots in the meadow had their length north & south, except those next to the first highway in the north west part of the meadow; these extended west, from the highway to the ~~river~~ river. The northwest extremity of the meadow was called the Forlorn Hope, or the Forlorn; and ~~sometimes~~ Honeypot was an appellation sometimes given to a portion of it, from a place in the river there, & since so named. This extreme point of the meadow was about one mile and three fourths west of the homelots; the part ~~where~~ of the river where Northampton bridge is, ~~at Northampton bridge, the distance~~ is not ~~half a mile, there~~ quite half as far. ~~remaining about the dam. Between the bridge and the~~ and these points or places ~~have not changed position since 1660.~~ Above the bridge, between these points, the river has made great inroads upon Hadley, ~~upon the island formed on the Northampton side, some distance~~ Below the bridge Hadley has gained ~~an extension~~ a large tract of land, washed from Northampton meadow, extending eastwardly beyond the south end of Hadley Street, and much enlarging the old Maple Swamp, or Aquavitae meadow.

a. This is a singular use of the word furlong, and I have not noticed the word in ~~the other~~ any other town records with such a meaning.

b. The tract ~~of land~~ in Northampton where deficiencies in other lands were made up, was called Forlorn. The Hadley Forlorn designated the land given to those who had Forty Acre meadow, to make them equal to Fort meadow proprietors.

The Great Meadow, for the purpose of distribution, was formed into three divisions, in each of which ~~all the~~ any proprietor ~~who expected~~ might drew a share, and there was a part of another division, connected with ~~the Meadow and~~ Forty Acres ~~and Foot meadow.~~

The first division adjoined the homelots, and was called the Plain, the Meadow Plain & the Plain between the Homelots and Ploughland, ~~and the Plain between the Fence and Great Meadow. Its eastern limit is an irregular bank,~~ ~~It is higher~~ It is higher than the land west of it, called Ploughland, ~~and is separated from that by an irregular bank or slope.~~ ~~The first planters did not consider it a part of meadow land nor value it so high.~~ It is considerably wider at the south end on the south highway, than at the north end by the river [and] the first settlers did not consider it meadow land, and did not value it as such. It embraced 4 tiers of lots of the eastern part of the north & middle furlongs. It was estimated at about 144 acres. ~~It was the first division of~~ The lots were drawn Feb. 28. 1661. ~~before any other.~~ 100 pounds drew 2 acres 55 rods.

The second division ~~was called Ploughland,~~ embraced the Ploughland, so called, ~~and embraced all~~ between the Plain and the ~~eastern bank~~ ~~and 13 lots on the south side of the north furlong, beyond the common~~ eastern cross highway. These lots were about twice as long as the Plain lots, each ~~of~~ extending across the furlong. It also included 13 lots in the portion of the north furlong west of the cross highway. The whole was about 184 acres. 100 pounds drew 3 acres.

144
184
246
574

The third division, ~~was in the South first lot~~ included Aquavitae meadow & land north of the western part of it, 38 and in the ~~northern~~ & middle parlors, west of the ~~cross~~ eastern mow/ highway. Much of this was called mowing / / / mowing land. The whole contained about 246 acres. 100 pounds drew 4 acres

Part of another division, including most of the ~~the~~ Forlorn, and some east of it was given to those who had ~~5~~ only acre Meadow.

III ~~3d Meadow~~. Fort Meadow was south of the village; and ~~lies~~ situated north and west of Fort river, having the Connecticut on the west. Those who lived in the Southern part of the village had this meadow at the rate of 5 acres to the 100 pounds. There were about 114 acres, north of Fort river and a few acres south of that river, ~~excluding the swamp~~ excluding some low swamp. ~~and that~~ Those who lived in the northern half of the village had as an equivalent - Forty Acre Meadow, and about 118 acres in the Great Meadow, in the Forlorn, and east of it ~~at the north west end of the / low, and south south side of the / north flanking near the Garden. & then~~ 100 pounds drew 2 acres 23 rods in Forty Acres, and 3 acres 120 rods in ~~acres Great~~ the Great Meadow, they having 114 rods more to the 100 pounds than those who drew in Fort Meadow, because the land was not quite so ~~good~~ valuable.

Fort Meadow and the upland north of it have been much reduced by the action of the Connecticut in freshets, ~~and at the same time meadow opposite has been greatly increased~~

IV. ~~Fort Meadow~~. Hockanum Meadows, below Fort Meadow, was a long point or neck of land. Each of the 48 proprietors had a lot here, and 100 pounds drew 4 acres 73 rods. The lots were drawn in March 1663, and the number ~~each man's lot~~ and quantity of each man's lot may be found on pages ~~with the exception that is to take up land by~~. No. 1. began at the west end. The whole piece was ~~extent was~~ about ~~293 rods~~ 293 ~~acres~~, ~~but were~~ but reduced to 276 ~~acres~~ in the records, by the process of equalizing. There was a tract called swamp in the southeastern part, that was not included in this division.

Equalizing Lands. This term is often used on the Hadley records. When a tract of land was to be distributed among the proprietors, if there was ~~diversity~~ much in the quality & value of different parts, a committee was appointed to equalize the land before it was divided. This is explained in the "Preface" to the land records. The committee valued the various parts, ~~and~~ directed that some should be measured at the rate of 3 rods for an acre; some, 6 rods for an acre; some 5 quarters for an acre, &c. The result of the equalization of Hockanum Meadows was as follows:—

		acres	rods		
1st on eastern portion,		77,	44,	to go in at	3/4 of an acre for each acre
2	"	10.	26	"	1 rod for an acre
3	"	53.	131	"	1 1/4 rods " "
4	"	52.	40	"	1 " " "
5	"	33.	143	"	1 1/2 " " "
6 or western	"	35.	124	"	2 " " "
		263.	32		

Five Townsmen were chosen Dec. 14. 1660, viz Andrew Bacon, Andrew Warner, Nathaniel Dickinson Samuel Smith, William Lewis.

Nathaniel Dickinson was chosen Town Clerk, Dec. 17. He was to transcribe all orders made by the town for that year; and the orders so made and written, he was to read openly to the meeting, before it broke up. He was the first Town Clerk.

Samuel Smith & Peter Tilton were chosen measurers of land, Dec 31, the first that are recorded. The town measurers were to lay out all their lands, to keep a record of the length & breadth of every mans lot, to put stakes in the front & rear of every lot, with the name of the man on his stake in some distinguishing letters. The measurers to have 3 pence an acre for their trouble.

At the meeting Dec. 17. it was voted that there should be a Moderator chosen at every Town Meeting.

It was voted that if any man fell any rift timber, and do not rive it out into bolts, pales rails, clapboards or shingles within 6 weeks any inhabitant may fetch it away for his own use. And if any man fell any pine timber and cart it not away in three months any inhabitant may make use of it.

A Committee was chosen to confer with Northampton about the meadow "which we bought of them". Another Committee was chosen to send some propositions to Mr. Hooker about removing to us.

Hockanum meadow ~~which~~ ~~Point~~ ~~(it was not a peninsula)~~ extended, from the eastern lot, ~~from the neck land~~ southwesterly about 1467 rods, or near one mile and a half. ~~The line that divided the lots were northwesterly and southerly~~ The lots were divided by lines running northwesterly & southeasterly; ~~across the neck, except one, about two thirds of the lots~~ extended across the neck, but 18 of the ~~eastern lots~~ on the eastern part ~~of the meadow~~ were bounded by a swamp at the southeast end. ~~Beyond~~ ~~The lots of~~ The southwestern lots were only 50 or 60 rods in length (judging from the width & contents) ~~but the other were longer, varying~~ the length of the other varying from 80 to 140 rods. That part of the meadow which had become quite narrow, 25 or 30 rods wide, by the long-continued wearing of the river, and through which the river formed a new channel on the 25th of February, 1840, was ~~from 100 to 140~~ not less than 100 rods wide in 1663. ~~The wearing had been on both sides.~~ ~~While this part of the meadow was becoming narrower,~~ a portion farther west was increasing in width, and received a ~~very~~ large accession of ~~fine~~ grass land, from Northampton, now a part of this island. There was not a great quantity of grass land in this part of the meadow in 1663. [The part cut off by the river has been annexed to Northampton] ~~and~~

~~The western part~~ The western part of this meadow has long been increasing and has received a large accession of grass land from Northampton, now a part of this island. [The part cut off by the river has been annexed to Northampton]

Equalizing Land. This term is often used in the Hadley records. When a tract, containing land that differed much in value, was to be distributed, ~~if there was much diversity in the quality & value of different parts~~, a committee was appointed to equalize the land. ~~This is explained in the Preface to the land records. Also in the~~ They valued the various parts, ~~and made to equalize the~~ and decided that one portion ~~was valued for~~, should go in according to the real measure; that inferior parts should go in at more ~~by the proportion~~ ~~& 3 to 8 rods, quarter to a~~, and ~~inferior~~ superior parts at ~~3 quarter part 120 or 145 equal to add to make~~ less than ~~160 rods to an~~ ~~160 rods to an~~. Thus in equalizing Hockanum meadow, they found five kinds of soil, differing in value, and directed that there should be received respectively at 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 rods or quarters to an acre. The most valuable land was on the north eastern part, and the least valuable at the south western end. The distance ~~probably~~ was perhaps considered in estimating the worth.

The Great meadow was equalized, ~~by making~~ mainly by ~~the division~~ forming it into 3 or 4 divisions, ~~and almost all were taken according~~ A small part was taken at more or less than ~~the~~ 160 rods to an acre.

School Meadows, situated north of Mill River, were appropriated to support a school, and will be noticed in another place.

Meadows on the west side ~~West~~ of the Connecticut.

There were four meadows on the west side, ~~not including Baylem & other land, north of the Upper Meadow~~. It is difficult to ascertain the quantity of land, which ~~the~~ North & Upper meadows, Little meadow, and the Plain, a part of Capawonk, two thirds of them contained, as the lands of several proprietors are not recorded ~~in the Hadley records~~. The four meadows ~~on the west side~~, may have contained as many acres as the four meadows on the east side, over 1200 ~~but it is, more allowance~~ considerable allowance was made for ponds & swamps & light lands, ~~and the all not gregale, nothing were received by the proprietors, very considerably less than 1200 acres~~. The west side settlers received at one time 75 acres in the North Meadow at the rate of one acre and three quarters for one acre, ~~or 131 acres for 75~~ and they received the Plain in Capawonk at two acres for one.

Swamps that produced hay which cattle would eat, however coarse, were deemed valuable, but ~~some yielded~~ were too spongy and wet and yielded only worthless aquatic shrubs and plants.

The four meadows ~~upon the~~ west side were as follows:—

I The North, Upper or Higher Meadows, which was purchased of Mr. Bradstreet, including the "Swamp adjoining the Higher Meadow", which did not belong to Mr. B. This meadow was separated into 6 divisions, and each of the west side proprietors had a lot in each division.

II. Little Meadows, was at the south end of the street, and part of it east of the Great or North Meadows. It was formed into two divisions

III. The South Meadows, or "the Meadows adjoining to the Street," at the south end, called Wequettayag by the Indians, and by the records sometimes Napanesett, but commonly Great Pansett. This contained about 430 acres, with little or no waste land, and required no equalizing committ. The east side proprietors had all of this meadow that was west of the ~~old road~~ highway leading from widow Mellows' gate to the landing place, & in the ferry to Hadley, ~~and thus on the west side the~~ called 205 acres; and those on the west side had all that was east of that highway, about 225 acres, ~~and~~ given out in three divisions, viz. 2 of plough land and one of mowland in the Indian Bottom,

IV. The South West Meadow which Nathaniel sold to Hadley, was originally called Capawonk, but subsequently Amphenesus, Little Pansett, Little, Little Pontius, &c. In recording the lands, Hilliton named it Little Pansett. It is separated from Great Pansett by Mill river. ~~It would have been more convenient to have reclaimed the first name, Capawonk.~~ The upper part of this meadow was denominated the Plain, ~~and was almost separated from the lower part by the point of the upland coming near to Mill river. The~~ and the west side unbeclaimed had this ~~reserved~~ Plain, ~~(not acquainted,)~~ ~~and~~ The east side had all of Capawonk or Little Pansett ~~except~~ the Plain; ~~which~~ division after being equalized, and the from dry & worthless swamps rejected, was called 157 acres.

Mrs Dwight Travis in her E. H. T. page 23 estimates, or rather at "eight or nine hundred acres of rich interval", be ~~evidently~~ supposes such property that Capawonk included both little and great and of the real Capawonk did not exceed 250 acres

Indian Bottom was the name of a tract of ~~[illegible]~~ land adjoining the Connecticut in the South Meadow or Great Pansett, north of the village of Hadley. When Umpanuchatas sold this meadows and other lands, June 10 1662, he reserved the Indian planting ground, which was on the higher part of this bottom, but afterwards sold it. In 1662, he sold all this planting ground but five acres, which the English were to fence and break up. They built a fence with posts and five rails, around the five acres in July 1662. This parcel was purchased by the English a few years after, and divided among most of the west side planters at the rate of one fourth of an acre to 100 pounds. Owing to this reservation of ~~planting~~ the Indian planting ground, the whole bottom has ever been called Indian Bottom, or Indian Hollow. In 1662 it contained about 55 acres, including the Indian Field, and three or four acres at the western extremity belonging to the east side proprietors. The northern part was higher than the rest, and used for ploughing, but was regarded as ~~a part of the bottom~~ a part of the bottom.

The Connecticut coming from the north, turns round the southeastern part of this meadow, and flows westerly. Within and near this bend, the Indian Bottom has been receiving accessions of land, washed from the Hadley side, for a long period. This is fine mould ground, and as productive & valuable as any found upon Connecticut river. The increase, however, has not been so extensive as the decrease upon the opposite side. The original Indian Bottom is not yet doubled by the accretions of 185 years. The formation of the ground is such that by the aid of the old records, ~~the line of the river bank in 1662 can be~~ can be

~~A line can be found which varies only one two or three rods from the bank of the river in 1662.~~

the curved line of the river bank in 1662 can be ~~ascertained~~ nearly ascertained in most places. The old bottom varied from 19 to 40 rods in width, exclusive of the western point. The new bottom no where exceeds 40 rods in breadth, and in some places much narrower than the old. ~~The~~ By the new bottom ~~has~~ is ~~meant only land~~ ~~the marks refer to land. At low water there is a sand bank~~ upon which grass or shrubs ~~are~~ grow, ~~at low water~~, and not the mere sand bank seen at low water. [This was written in 1847.]

Opposite to this grass meadow, the inroads of the river ~~have been~~ upon Hadley have been destructive. The homesteads where some of the early settlers lived & died, ~~the highways & lands they travelled~~ and the highways which they travelled, the lands which they cultivated, have been carried away, and more serious consequences have been threatened.

all in Brewer

1

Recapitulation of the Distribution of Lands to Eastside Proprietors.

Eastside Land.

Forty Acre Meadow, ~~cattle~~	67	acres
Great Meadow	710	"
Fort Meadow	147	"
Below Fort River	116	"
Hockanum Meadow	276	"
	1246	
Westside Land.		
Little Pansett	157	
Great Pansett	285	
Total	1578	~~Acres~~

100 £ drew as follows in each of the Seven divisions:-

		Acres	rods
1	In Fort Meadow, Forty Acres and Horlorn, half 5 acres, & half 5 acres, 143 rods — average	5.	72
2	In Hockanum meadow	4.	73
3	In the Plain, in Great Meadow.	2.	55
4	In Ploughland in do	3.	00
5	In Least Division in Do	4.	00
6	In Little Pansett. westside	2.	120
7	In Great Pansett "	3.	40
		25.	140

Each 100 pounds drew 25¼ acres of meadow land; 200 £ drew 50½ acres; 150 £ drew 37⅞ acres; 50 £ drew 12⅝ acres; 40 £ drew 10 acres 16 rods.

£6145 drew at this rate 1552 acres; and 26 acres, ~~granted~~ allowed for deficiencies in home lots make 1578 acres ~~as above~~.

~~In general~~ Each one half of the proprietors had seven lots, each, and the other half, who sold in Forty Acres, 8 lots. There were some deviations, a few receiving ~~none~~ in one division, ~~and~~ others in two. ~~division~~

Recapitulation of the Distributions of Land, to West side Proprietors.

The number of persons who drew lots in the South ~~Meadow~~ & Little meadow was 22, and the amount of estates 2500 pounds; 23 drew in the North Meadow, ~~and Little Meadow~~, and some land was reserved for others.

100 £ drew as follows:

	acres	rods
In 3 divisions in South Meadow,	8	144
In the Meadow Plain	2	55
In 2 divisions in Little Meadow	2	22
In 6 divisions in North Meadow	13	159
	27	60

Each 100 pounds drew 27 acres 60 rods, ~~which made~~ or 2 acres and 20 rods more than the east side proprietors had. This difference is not explained. The 23 proprietors drew about 700 acres, ~~It was expected that there be the division of the town in two~~ and this with some unappropriated land, on the west side.

After the township was divided, it was estimated that Hadley had two thirds of the improvable or interval land, and Hatfield one third. Hadley had not far from 1600 acres, and Hatfield about 800 acres.

"So they made an end of dividing the country" as in the days of Joshua. It is important business was performed harmoniously. No man claimed or received a great estate, or had above 50½ acres granted at first. The east extent of upland was open to all equally, for wood, timber and pasturage.

Plan of the Street and Houselots on the west side of the river. A committee was chosen to lay out these lots on the 11th of January

Winthrop 1661

16 ~~Samuel Field~~
16 ~~Benjamin Wait~~
16 ~~Robert Graves Jr~~
16 Samuel Ball
16 Robert Danks
~~[illegible]~~ Sarah Dickinson
16 Isaac Graves Jr
16 Samuel Northam
~~[illegible]~~ 25 Richard Morton

16 Town lot

8 John Hunt
5 ~~[illegible]~~
8 Samuel Kellogg
8 Obadiah Dickinson
16 John Allis
16 Daniel Whiting 100
16 William Allis 200
16 1 Thomas Meekins 200
2 Thomas Meekins Jr
8 Eleanar Avary 50
16 John Graves 100
16 Isaac Graves 150
8 1 Stephen Taylor 50
2 Barnabas Hinsdale
16 1 Ozias Goodman 100
2 Mr Hope Atherton
16 1 Zechariah Field 125
2 John Field
Highway to Northampton

8a 1 John Cowles 150
2 John Cowles Jr
8a 1 Richard Fellows 100
2 Widow Fellows

South meadow

Street

Highway to the river

Thomas Bracy 14½
Hezekiah Dickinson 20
William Scott 20
Daniel Belden 16
Samuel Allis 16
Samuel Marsh 16
John Coles Jr 14 acres
2 Nathaniel Foote
Philip Mann 14 "
Samuel Gillett 14 "
100 John Wells 14½ "
100 John Coleman 10 "
100 Samuel Belden 8 "
100 William Gull 8 "
100 Samuel Dickinson 8 "
100 1 Edward Benton 10 "
2 Nathaniel Dickinson Jr
100 John White Jr 8 "
150 Nathaniel Dickinson Jr 8 "
100 Richard Billings 8 "
100 Daniel Warner 8
125 1 Thomas Bull 8
2 The Town had it

These are all the homelots that were granted by Hadley on the west side, before the town was divided in 1670. Hatfield granted others north of these on elsewhere. The 22 persons to whom the meadows were distributed have a sum annexed to their names. These sums amount to 2500 pounds. John Allis should be added for the north meadows. Six others north of John Allis & John Wells had from Hadley each a homelot, and 11½ acres of other land in one parcel.

Edward Benton, Thomas Bull & Ozias Goodwin, all of Hartford, did not settle in Hadley, and their lands came into possession of the town in 1662 & 1663. Nathaniel Dickinson, senior, had Edward Benton's homelot, ~~and Richard Olton the blacksmith had his meadow lands.~~ Rev. Hope Atherton had Ozias Goodwin's homelot, and Thomas Bull's meadowland. Ozias Goodwin's meadow land was paid by the town for some years.

"So they made an end of dividing the country," as in the days of Joshua. This important business was performed harmoniously, and with due regard to the rights of all. No man claimed or received a great estate. The most wealthy and influential men had but 50 acres of intervale land. The vast extent of upland was open to all equally, for wood, timber & pasturage.

Surveyor's Compass. Such an instrument was not used in laying out lands in Wethersfield Hartford or Windsor for half a century after the settlement of those places. In Springfield Northampton & Hadley, Mass. compass was used until after 1700. Caleb Stanley, Jr. of Hartford, was the first regular surveyor, with a compass, that resided in any town upon Connecticut river. He had a surveyor's compass a few years before 1700. ~~In this period the earliest~~ Timothy Dwight, born in 1694, the grandfather of President Dwight, was the first surveyor and owner of surveying instruments, some years ~~after 1700~~. Nathaniel Kellogg Jr. born in 1693, that lived in Northampton was the first surveyor that resided in Hadley. ~~in his much business.~~ Instrumental surveys were

~~when~~ Pocumptuck (Deerfield) was granted to Dedham in 16.. and the ~~external limits~~ boundaries were run by Joshua Fisher of Dedham with a compass May 1686. The surveyor's compass was sometimes used in the eastern part of the colony many years.

Town measurers had a measuring chain, and perhaps a square to form right angles. They found

the length and breadth of the lots & easily ascertained the contents. Where the outlines were irregular, their calculations were sufficiently accurate. The pocket-compass may have been used before that of the surveyor was introduced, but there is no mention of such an instrument. ~~[illegible]~~ The northstar was sometimes resorted to in establishing ~~a north & south~~ lines. As this star is due north only twice in 24 hours, such lines were sometimes erroneous.

Pacomptuck or Deerfield was granted to Dedham in 16... and the boundaries were run by Joshua Fisher, of Dedham, with a compass, in May 1665. His courses are expressed in this manner; South and by East, 2 degrees East; North north-west, 2 degrees west; & West, half a point south, &c. The surveyor's compass was sometimes used in the eastern part of the colony, many years before.

Town Clerks & Surveyors. These were first chosen in Hadley Dec 31. 1660, & were Samuel Smith and Peter Tilton. They were to lay out all the lands, & keep a record of the length & breadth of every man's lot, & put stakes in the front & rear of every lot, with the initials of the man on his stake "in some distinguishing letter." They were to receive three pence per rod for their trouble.

Recorder of Lands. Nathaniel Dickenson was the first Town Clerk, chosen Dec 17. 1660. Peter Tilton was the second Clerk, chosen Sept 4. 1661, and on the 9th of February 1663 he was chosen Recorder of Lands. All of the home lots and intervale lands that appear on the records, were recorded by him, in a peculiar but legible hand. ~~The bounds of the lots, are given, the width and number of acres are given~~ The meadow or division in which the lots are situated, & their bounds, width and number of acres, are given; ~~and the number of acres~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ and the quantity recorded for an acre is stated, when it was more or less than 160 square rods. John Barnard & Francis Barnard

have no ~~lots~~ parcels of land recorded, ~~lots~~, neither are the town lots recorded. But the place of all these lots can be found by the bounds of lands which adjoined them. ~~Hence we find~~ The lands of five or six of the west side proprietors are not in the records.

It is manifest that men's shares in a division of land were assigned by lot, ~~or in some sheets, by chance~~, though the manner in which this was done is not described. The number upon a piece of paper or ticket which a man drew, ~~determined~~ designated the place of his parcel of land, ~~& the estate offered to him was determined the quantity~~. Hence the word lot is applied to a piece of land in America, though it has not such a meaning in England.

Common Fields & Fences.

The labor of fencing was very great for three or four years. The home lots alone on the east side required upwards of 16 miles of fence. There were four common fields on the east side of the river; ~~and common~~ on the west side, Great and Little Pamunkett, ~~on the west side~~, were fenced as one field, and North and Little Meadows as another. The fence which each inhabitant of a common field ~~or fence as around these common fields was~~ proportioned ~~to the acres of all the adjoining proprietors~~, had to make, was according to the number of acres of land he held in the fields, & the place of his fence, like that of his land, was fixed by lot.

Forty Acre fence. The length of this is not given. It was on the bank of the bank, ~~a little westerly~~ near the present highway to North Hadley.

Great Meadow was fenced by the rear fence of the western home lots. The town maintained a portion of the fence on the Northampton road, and south of that to the river.

Fort Meadow fence ~~was a long and expensive one; running from the Connecticut gently on the north side of the meadow to the high bank of the plain beyond that River; then southerly, round the meadow & thence to the river, as seems to have been first made~~ 1662 on the low land, where it must have been exposed to great damage in high floods. Some years after, it was removed to the ~~uplands~~ high plain far to the east, and connected with Hockanum fence which extended to the mountain.

Hockanum Meadow Fence, The proprietors of this field made use of ~~the southwestern~~ a part of Mount Holyoke as a barrier against domestic animals, and in 1663 made a short fence from the south end of the mountain to the river, and another beginning at Fort Meadow fence or hedge "on the the bank near to the ford that goes over the river, extending to the mountain when it is impassable." This fence was allotted at the rate of 3 rods 6 feet of fence to 100 pounds of estate, making 208 rods. The south end of the mountain approaches the river, ~~so that not long fence was then necessary~~, and no long fence was not then necessary. The northern fence, directed to be built by June 1663, ~~at Fort Meadow Fence or Hedge~~ was to begin at Fort Meadow Fence or Hedge, "on the bank, near the ford that goes over Fort river, & extend to the mountain where it is impassable." This fence was proportioned at the rate of 3 rods & 6 feet to 100 pounds of estate, making about 208 rods. ~~to the steep~~ It probably reached the steep side of the mountain, ~~among the greenstone fragments, west~~ northwest of the present mountain house. In 1675 the proprietors of Hockanum & Fort Meadow, united their fences into one, & removed them ~~to the~~ some distance to the east. The fence being on at the same time ~~was~~ on the north side of Fort Meadow, crossed Fort river & ascended the high bank of Lawrence's Plain close by the pitted the old Indian fort, & then stretched across the plain & up the side of the mountain in a southerly direction — It was subsequently removed further east

till it came to the piles of greenstone fragments ~~in front of~~ before the fourth peak or elevation of the mountain, east of the great track. This fence was about 700 rods in length, and was maintained ~~for~~ more than 100 years, and the great Detour & Gap. (73 rods of this was at S. end of mountain

~~Little Pansett~~

The Pansetts on the west side were fenced in 1662. The east side made all the fence from the southwest corner of Little Pansett to the meadow Plain, and 80 rods against the Plain; and the east side made the remainder to connecticut river, near the present lower ferry in Hatfield. The east side seems to have made ~~about~~ 500 rods or 8 rods to 100 rd estate. This fence was on the top of the bank of the upland, as were most other meadow fences in this and other towns. In 1669 ~~this little Pansett fence was~~ the town ordered that this Little Pansett fence should be made "with ditch, posts and two or three rails on the same", or as expressed in another vote, "with ditch and two poles or three rails on the same". The broad ditch, high bank ~~of the old common fences may still be seen in many places~~ which may still be seen in many places on both sides of the river was an important part of the old common fence. The ditch was on the outside of the field ~~and of the bank~~ bank and rails, for the object of the fence was to secure the ~~crops from~~ many horses, cattle, ~~that~~ & other domestic animals ~~ranged thereon~~ turned out in the woods ~~and breaking out into the common fields~~, on the outside. On the side of the great river, no ~~fence was~~ defense against beasts was necessary.

Common Fields, as accepted by the tenants of a parish or village, according to certain laws & customs, were numerous in England when our fathers emigrated from that country, & long after. There "commonable lands" were in arable fields divided into long, narrow strips; in mowing fields, not in so small pieces, and in fields for pasturage. There were regulations as to the number & kind of animals each might put into the commons, and there was a keeper for the horses, another for the cattle, and a shepherd for the sheep, & sometimes the three kinds of animals were kept together. The early settlers of New England, tho' placed in circumstances widely different from those of English tenants, seem to have derived from England some of their practices regarding commons and common fields.

The first planters upon Connecticut river could not have divided their intervals into farms or large tracts, consistently with a due regard to the interest of each proprietor. There were great varieties in soil & situation, and each man ~~demanded his share of the more valuable & productive lands, & those that were near home.~~ Hence the ~~each~~ desired mowing & arable ground, and demanded his share of the more valuable & productive lands, and especially those that were near his home. Hence the numerous ~~divisions and~~ parcels of land. Tracts so divided must

It has been suggested that the manner of cultivating lands in common fields, resulted from the labor & time required to make partition fences. This is not the only

On a large portion of the alluvial lands of Northampton, Hadley, Hatfield, & other towns, partition fences could not be maintained against the floods & floating ice.

be cultivated as common fields; partition fences are impossible; ~~How~~ When the lots ~~were larger, those~~ upon the lower part of the intervals were larger, they could not be ~~well~~ securely enclosed, for no fence could be maintained against the river floods. The fathers of Hadley & of other towns, in throwing their ~~small~~ ~~adjacent~~ allotments into common fields for cultivation, adopted the only practicable method. ~~those who cultivated lands in common fields~~

Gates in common fences that crossed public highways, were necessary appendages of the common field system, & rather troublesome to travellers. Hadley had ~~of fifteen~~ ~~but two~~ two such gates ~~south~~ south of the village, ~~[illegible]~~ one on the road to Springfield, ~~but seven hundred yards~~. One of the two was the Mountain Gate, so called, ~~the south approach~~ on the top of the hill, ~~[illegible]~~ a gate south of the ~~next~~ North a mean burying ground. The other was near ~~at~~ the north west adjoining Fort Meadow. There were also meadow gates, bars in the village.

chisel stones.

Chapter.

Highways.

The early settlers had one broad street, and various highways, ways and lanes, but the word ROAD, they seldom ~~if ever~~ used. Their STREET and highways were first designated, and then the lots of land were laid out, contiguous to these ways. The supposition that the ways in this and other old towns were laid over the land of individuals, is without the least foundation.

In 1665 Peter Pelton recorded the following highways.

1. "The Common street 20 rods in breadth". This has since been reduced to about 16 rods. At the north end of the east row of homelots, a broad space was left unappropriated, between the river and the four small homelots, which appears ever regarded as a continuation of the main street. Its course from the street was northeasterly. ~~and~~

2. North highway into the meadow between the homelots ~~of homelots~~ of Chileab Smith and Samuel Gardner, running by the great river through the meadow to Andrew Lander's lot in the Horlorn. It was to be four rods road between the homelots.

3. Middle highway into the meadow, between the homelots of Henry Clarke and Edward Church, 6 rods broad; then straight through the plain & meadow to the great river, 2 rods broad.

4. South highway into the meadow, between William Markham's ~~lot~~ homelot north, and the Ferry lot south; ~~and from~~ and thence ~~will~~ very ill it comes to the meadow, having the south furlong of the plain north, and the waste land or bank of maple swamp south. To be 3 rods in breadth from the town street to the west end of the plain. Thence in the meadow to the lot of William Partridge, and from that westerly to the great river, two rods wide. ~~The distinction between the plain & meadow is now~~

5. A highway in the meadow, from the north highway, running southerly, to the middle highway, one rod and a half broad; and thence southerly to the south highway "which comes down by the Ferry lot and Maple Swamp", three fourths of a rod broad.

6. A ~~highway~~ way ~~in the~~ meadow from the north highway, southerly to Mr. Goodwin's lot, one rod wide. The lots in the Forlorn, ~~or~~ west end of the meadow, front on this way.

7 Middle highway into the woods between Mr. John Russell Junior's houselot north, and John Barnard's houselot south, ~~6~~ rods broad.

8 South highway into the woods, between Nathaniel Dickinson's houselot north, and John Russell senior's houselot south, two rods broad at the west end, and three rods at the east end.

9 Highway through Fort meadow two rods in breadth

10 Highway from one end of Hockanum meadow to the other, two rods in breadth.

11 Highway over the great river, from the common landing place to widow Fellows' fence, one rod and a half broad.

12 From the last mentioned way another way through the meadow to Mr. Goodwin's lot at the lower end, two rods broad.

Other highways on the west side of the river are not recorded. Those on the east side all belonged to the town plot and ~~meadows~~. The other lands were all in common, and every man travelled where he pleased, and no ways were laid out by the town for some years. ^ It became necessary ~~however~~ to pay some attention to highways leading to other towns.

^ In 1667 the town ordered a passable cart-way to be made along the Forty Acres to Mill Brook.

Before Hadley was begun, the Northampton people had a way to Windsor and Hartford through Waramoke, (afterwards Westfield.) They ~~also~~ had also formed a way to Springfield on the east side of the river. They had a boat at the lower end of their Middle Meadow, and passed over to Hockanum Meadow, a little above the new channel recently formed by the Connecticut; they crossed this meadow ~~southeasterly~~ to the upland, & thence continued to Springfield. The people of Hadley very early ~~continued~~ extended this road northerly up to their plantations, selecting a route along the side of Mount-Holyoke some distance above the present road through Hockanum village and crossing Fort Meadow, & the land north of it, to the south end of the street.

These roads were not laid, nor repaired ~~by public order~~, by any legal authority; they were mere paths through the woods and Indian openings, ~~perhaps the same paths that had been previously used by the Indians~~, and most of the streams were destitute of bridges. Yet over such ways did the people of Northampton and Hadley transport their produce to Windsor or Hartford on carts. The county court, in September, 1662, appointed Ens. Thomas Cooper of Springfield, Joseph Parsons of Northampton, and Nathaniel Dickinson senior of Hadley, a committee to consider the bridge between Springfield & Hadley, called Bachelor's Brid[illegible], and other defective places in the road; and the two latter with one of the Hadley commissioners, were empowered "to impress men or carts," from Hadley or Northampton, to repair the bridge road. In September, 1663, "there being complaints of bad and dangerous places in the highways between our towns in this County," the court appointed a committee of three men, one from each town, to see where such ways

shall lie, ~~between Hadley and Windsor on both~~ sides of the ~~river~~, as shall be reparable by the county, between Hadley and Windsor, on both sides of the river. This committee not having effected any thing, the court in Mar. 1664 added one more from each town to the committee, and empowered them to determine anything concerning said ways from Hadley to Windsor, as to the place or places where they shall lie, and how & by whom they shall be repaired. The committee consisted of George Colton and Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, Henry Woodward and Capt. Aaron Cooke of Northampton, and Andrew Warner and William Allis of Hadley. They began their examination May 16, 1664, and finished made their return May 24, which was presented to the court Oct. 3, and approved.

[For the whole of this return from the county record, or an abstract of it from my "Hampshire Mallers" must be inserted]

These were the first county roads in the county of Hampshire. Three feeble towns, besides other wards, were under the necessity of making and maintaining two roads, near 40 miles each, from Hadley & Northampton to Connecticut line, which was then supposed to be south of the present north line of Windsor. And they supported these ways for some years, until ~~the new towns of~~ Westfield, Suffield and Enfield came to their aid. Northampton and Hadley ~~contributed~~ used to send men & teams & implements to repair the road in the limits of the present town of Suffield, as far south as. At the September Court 1666, both towns were complained of for defective way between Windsor & Windsor. The principal defect was in "a bridge about a mile below the tan-kilns", probably ~~in the present Suffield~~, within the bounds of what is now Suffield. The towns amended

the defects previous to March Court, 1669, and were discharged on paying the recorder's fees. Hadley was also presented at the September Court 1668, for want of one or two bridges in the way towards Chicopee river, and was discharged at the next March Court, having rebuilt the bridges. The large streams, as Chicopee, Manham, Warranoke, and others, had no bridges, but were forded.

The roads laid in 1664 followed the ways previously used. On the east side of the river, the highway from the south end of Hadley street to near Fort river, was where the Connecticut now flows. Below Fort river, it turned easterly up the hill, and continued on the side of Mount Holyoke, below the steep part of the acclivity, to the gate at the south end of the mountain, near which the present road intersect it. This was the highway between Springfield & Hadley more than 80 years. The lower road extend the south east part of Highamum meadows, & was by a meadow road. The ground at the foot of the mountain, farther south, was so swampy and quaggy for a highway.

Scamungamuck, where the road crossed the Chicopee river, was near the falls, and not far from the present Chicopee Factories above Cabotville. Hadley disliked this circuitous route, and at the March Court 1673, petitioned that the country road instead of going to Scamungamuck falls, might "go down to Chicopee river through the great plain that lieth by Connecticut river, to Springfield. The court appointed Nathaniel Ely of Springfield and Samuel Porter & John Smith of Hadley to view the way. They reported in favor of the lower way, the road to cross the Chicopee river at the island near Japhet Chapin's. The court ordered that

the road should go ~~this lower way~~ where the committee proposed.

From preceding page -
Hadley disliked this route, & in February 1665, chose a committee to view the way to the mouth of Chickopee river and to the falls in the great river, to see whether it be preferable for transportation, & to confer with Northampton & Springfield.

Scamungamunk, where the road crossed the Chickopee ~~river~~, was near ~~the~~ falls in the river, and not far from the present Chickopee Factories above Cabotville. Hadley desired a road farther west, ~~through Chickopee interval, and~~ through the low land north of the Chickopee, and in February 1665, appointed a committee "to view a way to the mouth of Chickopee river, and to the falls in the great river, to see whether it be preferable for transportation, and to confer with Northampton & Springfield". Nothing was effected. Hadley disliked the eastern way, and at the March Court, 1673, petitioned that the country road, instead of going to Scamungamunk falls, might "go down to Chickopee river through the great plain that lieth by Connecticut river and so to Springfield". The Court appointed Nathaniel Ely & Samuel Chenifield of Springfield, and Samuel Porter and John Smith of Hadley, to examine the route. They reported in favor of the lower way, the road to cross Chickopee river at the island, near Japhet Chapin's. The Court ordered that the road should go where the committee proposed. One object of Hadley was apparently to obtain access to Connecticut river at the highest point of boat navigation, which was then below the Willimansett rapids, called falls.

Highway between Northampton and Hadley. From the beginning of the Hadley, people crossed the Connecticut between the south end of the Hadley street and the southeast part of Northampton meadows, called Old Rainbow. ~~This passage was impracticable~~ In floods, ~~the meadow~~ it was difficult if not impracticable to cross at this place; and for this & perhaps other reasons, the Committee of 1664 avoided Northampton meadow, and laid the highway from the river near where ~~the Northampton~~ the bridge now stands, across Hadley meadow, which is considerably higher than old Rainbow, "to the middle way that leads to the centre of Hadley Town". This ~~route~~ was ~~carrying the road~~ quite too far to the north, and crossed ~~a great many~~ the meadow lots ~~very~~ obliquely, & ~~left them in inconvenient shapes~~ inconveniently, ~~Hadley resisted this road, and it was never made.~~ The Court, when they accepted of the return of the committee, Oct. 3. 1664, ordered Northampton to keep the ferry, & provide a meet man for the work. Until this was done, the way was to be through Northampton meadow, where travellers used to pass, & Hadley was to keep the ferry as before. Hadley was much grieved at the alteration and in March 1665, petitioned the Court to consider the matter. The Court advised the two towns to chose men and settle the business between themselves. Northampton appointed William Clark David Wilton, & John King, and Hadley chose

Henry Clarke, Samuel Smith and Nathaniel Dickinson; and on the 3d of April 1665, they agreed that there should be a highway two rods broad through Northampton meadow, from the northe gate into said meadow to the lots in Old Rainbow "where the way now is"; and from these lots to the ferry, Hadley was at liberty to purchase a way, and might land on the sandy flats of the meadow. The road might be used for all kinds of travel and transportation, and by Northampton as well as Hadley. This was the principal channel of communication between the two towns for more than a century. Hadley however about this time laid a road from the river to connect with the southern meadow & horneless highway, which was much used after a ferry was established. He set on the Northampton side

The people of Hadley west of the river (Hatfield) and those of Northampton, had a way between them from the beginning.

In March 1665, Hadley "voted that the west side (Hatfield) choose two men to speak with Northampton men to lay out a road from Northampton to that part of the town". This is all the record that remains concerning ~~this~~ ~~being the road for a long time~~ for this road for a long time. But there was a way between the two places from the first planting of the west side

Every common fence was supposed to have a highway by the side of it, to enable people to ~~make and~~ repair the fence.

Way to Boston, or Bay Road. The route by which the early emigrants came from the Bay to Connecticut river, is not certainly known. It appears from Johnson's "Wonder Working Providence" that one came through Dedham; for under the year 1637, he says the people of that town, "add much comfort to the lonesome travellers, in their solitary journey to Connecticut," [Connecticut.] It is supposed that Mr Hooker & his company, ~~with~~ and others, came to the Chickepee river, near "Freeborn" (Brookfield,) and followed that stream towards Springfield. At the meeting of the commissioners of the New England colonies, September, 1644, there was a petition that ~~the~~ the way from the Bay to Connecticut might be mended; and the commissioners directed Mr Hopkins of Hartford "~~to find & lay out the best way~~ to provide some meet men "to find and lay out the best way to the Bay". The records do not indicate ~~to~~ where the way was, that required mending, nor what was done by Mr. Hopkins in regard to a new way. The next notice of ~~the road~~ is in Gov. Winthrop's History, June 1648. He says, "this year, a new way was found out to Connecticut by Nashua, [Lancaster,] which avoided much of the hilly way." This new way by Nashua, was used by travellers for ~~[illegible]~~ years. Hubbard, the Historian, says ~~[illegible]~~ ~~and [illegible] Lancaster [illegible] in the way towards Hadley,~~ ~~Hadley was settled when he wrote, though not in 1653.~~

says Lancaster was begun in 1647 & made a town in 1653, and was "in the way towards Hadley"; ~~but in 1653~~ Hadley was settled when he wrote, though not in 1653. On the 12th of December, 1661, Hadley voted to give 45 shillings "towards the laying out of a commodious way to the Bay by Nashua," probably acting in concert with other towns on the river.

In October, 1665, a petition to the General Court for a plantation at Quinsigamond, (Worcester) stated that the place was "in the new and most direct way to Connecticut;" and a committee in Oct. 1668 reported that it was about 12 miles west of Marlborough, "near the road to Springfield"; and in May 1669, it was said to be "in the road-way to Springfield & Hadley." Still later this way was called the "country road to Connecticut" and the "road to Springfield." In 1674 Maj. Gookin called it "the new road-way from Boston to Connecticut," and mentioned "the old road-way to Connecticut through ~~Grafton~~ Hassanamesit (Grafton). ~~At this time~~ There were in that part of the colony at least three roads to the Connecticut, viz. the north one through Nashua, the middle one through Quinsigamond, and the south one through Hassanamesit.

The indefinite words "to Connecticut," so often used, evidently refer to the towns upon the river, both in Massachusetts & Connecticut; and there is reason to believe, that most of the travel between Boston & Hartford was through Springfield, ~~and upon the Springfield Bay Road. There was a Bay Road and in from Springfield towards Boston road by early a~~ There was very early a ~~road~~

Bay Road leading from Springfield. ~~to the Bay~~

A plantation at Quabang was granted in 1660, but only six or seven families were there in May 1667.

The people of Hadley soon found a passage to Quabang (Brookfield); perhaps ~~the same that~~ those of Northampton had previously used the same. It required not less than three days to perform a journey from the river to Boston, and the first night at least had to be spent in the woods or among the Indians. Quabang was the first Indian village east of the river towns, and must have been a lodging place for the travellers, as well before as after it was possessed by the English. It is not improbable that the Bay Road from Springfield led to the same place. A plantation at Quabang was granted in 1660, and the land was purchased of the Indians in 1665, but ~~in May 1667~~ only 6 or 7 families resided there in May 1667. In November 1666 Hadley instructed the townsmen to agree with Corporal Coy, (one of the principal inhabitants of the new settlement) "about laying out a new way from Quabang to the most westerly river of the two, next to Hadley," meaning Swift river. ~~The next notice of this Bay road the Hadley is~~ ~~at the first court in March 1672~~ ~~March 1672~~ a committee was appointed ~~a committee~~ by the County Court, viz Joseph Parsons and John Kellogg of Northampton, and Samuel Porter and John Smith of Hadley, "to lay a highway from Hadley town (village) to and over the riverett called Fort river towards the Bay," and to look out the best place over that river. These four men made their return of the road, March, 1673, and the court confirmed what they had done. They concluded to have "the way go from the ferry

* The way mentioned above

along in the town way between Goodman Dickinson and old Mr. Russel's lots, to the end of their home lots & then to go up the hill upon the pine plain, and so the highway to be 12 rods wide to the head of a swamp, & so straight way upon the plain as trees are marked 12 rods wide, until it come to the Fort river about 5 or 6 rods northward of the usual wading place; we judge there is need of a horse bridge, especially when the waters are high". Such is the return. It will puzzle any man at this day, to trace this higher road by the home lots, from this report. It was not acceptable to Hadley and nothing was done. The Court in March 1674 remark that "Northampton was at considerable expense in laying out a way to Quabaug, now called Brookfield, wished Hadley to join with them, but Hadley would not, because they would have to build a bridge over Fort river in the Bay road". They say the passage over that river is frequently difficult & hazardous, & therefore order Hadley to make a sufficient bridge over that river in a place convenient for travellers "at least, a foot bridge". In February 1675, the town voted "to build a cart bridge over Fort river in the most convenient place, as may best suit country & town". A committee was appointed to oversee & carry on the work. The bridge was built, and it was the first one over Fort river on the road to Quabaug and the Bay. The town ~~was not required to~~ build a cart bridge ~~for~~ their own convenience; ~~not for the country use, a foot bridge would have complied with the order~~ a foot bridge only was required by the Court. This bridge was a little below the South end of Spruce Hill, where the Bay road crossed Fort River many years, ~~before it was~~ In 1679 Joseph Kellogg's grant of 140 acres near Fort river, on both sides, was to lie "part above the bridge or country road to the Bay & part below

the said bridge". This lot was near the end of Spring Hill, when recorded, 1649. ~~as said~~ & had a highway through it ~~on both sides of the river~~ "where the former country road went." Previous to ~~this time there had been~~ 1675 Hadley had a way towards Boston called the "Nashaway path" on the records, ~~running~~ along on the north side of Fort river swamp or pastures, ~~and it~~ ~~crossing the river above the falls, which~~ ~~the tannery~~ Dickinson's ~~& sawmill~~ are situated, or some distance. It is still the boundary of lots, and bears the old name of Nashua path, ~~reminding the present generation of~~ reminding the time when their ~~ancestors~~ made a circuitous route to Lancaster to reach Boston. ~~and apparently crossing the river above Dickinson's tannery and sawmills~~ and apparently crossing the stream above ~~the falls,~~ the falls where now are Dickinson's tannery and a sawmill. It is still for some distance the boundary of lots and bears the old name of "Nashaway path", reminding the present generation ~~of the time~~ ~~that~~ their ancestors travelled to Boston by a horse path, winding through ~~Lancaster, Nashua~~ ~~Lancaster~~ Nashua

It is presumed that the ~~old~~ road to Quabaug ~~road~~ in the 17th century, which was so much used in the Indian wars, crossed Swift and Ware rivers and Coy's Hill, near where it did long after Ware was settled. It followed up Ware river about 3/4 of a mile around the Factories, and then crossed ~~the Coy's Hill road and the steep hill and the river~~ the hill, & descending on the eastern side near West Brookfield pond.

It is presumed that the road from Hadley to Quabaug, in the 17th century, which was so much used in the Indian wars, crossed Swift & Ware rivers and Coy's Hill, near where it ~~does at~~ comes was a much later period. ~~Coy's~~ Long after Ware was settled the road from Northampton & Hadley ~~[illegible]~~ crossed Ware river ~~& Coy's Hill~~ & Coy's Hill about three fourths of a mile north of the present factories. The southerly road over Coy's Hill into Western was a much later work.

~~In early days, Swift river was provided with a rude bridge with~~

Swift river was forded with ~~more~~ difficulty, then Ware river, and in 1672, John Smith of Hadley was directed by the Court to amend the way near Swift river, and "to fell a tree across the river for a foot bridge, if any such be near at hand". There were many such foot bridges in those days.

In 1674, Goodman Boltwood of Hadley, and Medad Pomeroy of Northampton, were chosen by those towns to lay out a more convenient way to Brookfield; and the Court ~~appointed them to join with~~ directed them to join with John Ayres, sen^r and Thomas Parsons of Brookfield, & survey the brook that runs down by Corporal Coy's, & determine where the country road shall lie over the brook. The return was made to the Court March 1675, & put on file and not recorded. ~~They laid the road by Corporal Coy's house, beside~~

In September 1681, some men arrived at Hadley from Lancaster, to treat ~~with those towns~~ about surveying and laying out a road "from thence hither". Hadley appointed men to confer with them, & with the Northampton & Hatfield committees, & agree upon what was rational & meet. The subject is not again mentioned on the records.

It is presumed that the road from Hadley to Quaboag in the 17th century, which was so much used in the Indian wars, crossed Swift and Ware Rivers near Coy's Hill near where ~~the~~ course of the way was at a much later period. When Ware was settled, and long after, the road from Northampton & Hadley crossed Ware river about three fourths of a mile north of the present factories, and then passed over Coy's Hill.[a] the southern road over Coy's Hill, which was ~~a much later work~~ not laid until June 1769.

All these old roads to Quaboag, Nashua, &c were ~~[illegible]~~ only paths for footmen & horsemen. ~~A way for wheels was not thought of~~ A cart-way was not probably ~~thought of~~ [illegible]. In 1692 Hatfield chose a man to join with some from Northampton and Hadley "to lay out a way to the Bay for horses and carts if feasible." This is the first allusion to a ~~highway for wheels~~ Bay road, road to Boston for wheels; and it is believed that no cart or waggon passed from Hadley to Boston ~~after~~ many years after 1692; ~~probably not till after the peace of 1712.~~

a Letter from Joseph Cummings Esq. of Ware.

~~Indian Paths. When the English established themselves in New England, the Indians had paths from village to village, and from tribe to tribe in all parts of the country which ~~they~~ they inhabited. There were paths from the Indians upon Connecticut river to the Nipmucks in the present Worcester county, and thence, to the seaboard; and from place to place on or near Connecticut river from Pocumtuck (Deerfield) to Tripp Brook. ~~There were paths from~~. There were paths on~~

Indian Paths. When the English established themselves in New England, the Indians had narrow paths between ~~their~~ villages and tribes, such paths were on both ~~sides of the Connecticut~~ sides of the Connecticut, and ~~extended~~ from this river to the seaboard. These paths may have been ~~followed~~ sometimes followed by the English emigrants & road layers. They were ~~very narrow~~ only a foot wide through the bushes, according to Johnson's Wood says, "an Indian path is seldom broader than a cart's rut", referring to the beaten path made by their feet. They travelled ~~in Indian file~~ one behind another, whence our expression, "Indian file".

Bridges.

The first bridge built by Hadley was across "Fort Meadow Brook", as they then called Fort river, on the Springfield road. A committee of five was appointed to build it, Sept. 4. 1661, & empowered to call out men.

The second bridge was over the Pa[illegible] stream on the Amherst road near the South end of Shrine Hill. There was a conditional vote to build this bridge in 1671, but nothing was then done. On the 12th of February, 1675, the town voted to build a cart bridge. Such a bridge was not needed for the country at large, but was useful to the inhabitants, who brought wood, timber, &c from the southeast side of Fort river. The troops that came to Hadley in Philips war, 1675 & 1676 from the eastern towns, Appleton, Gill, Poole, Morly, Savage, Turner, & other commanders crossed this bridge; as did Major Pabott and the Connecticut soldiers, the head from Norwich, who entered Hadley 1676 accompanied by bands of Mohegans & Pequots.

Bridges. (Paragraphs to be arranged according to the numbers)

1 A bridge for ~~[illegible]~~ horses & teams over Fort-river, on the Springfield road, was indispensable; and on the 4th of September, 1661 a committee was chosen to build a bridge over that stream (then called Fort-meadow Brook) they were "to call out people" ~~[illegible]~~ to labor on the bridge, every man according to his ability, those who refused to pay paying [illegible] (Plant 1674)

4 The County Court required Hadley to build ~~a foot bridge~~, "at least, a foot-bridge" over Fort-river on the way to Deerfield. On the 12th of February 1675, the town voted to build a cart-bridge, in a place to suit both country and town. Such a bridge was not necessary for the country, but was useful ~~for the town~~ to the inhabitants of the town. Every man had liberty to work out his proportion of the expense; if he did not work, he was to pay in wheat and peas. This bridge was near the southend of Spruce Hill, and in the Indian war of 1675-1676 the troops from the eastern towns came into Hadley over this bridge; as did also the Connecticut troops from Hatfield under Major Talcott 1676, accompanied by mollyhands of Mohegans & Pequots. This was the first bridge on the Bay road.

3 The third bridge over this stream ~~was~~ on the road to Hockanum meadow and Springfield, ~~it~~ was voted, Sept. 16, 1681, and was to be "below the old bridge, in the highest and most advantageous place for landing, on both sides" ~~The committee, composed of Samuel [illegible] old bridge seems to have stood 60 years. The~~ Two of the committee for the new bridge, ~~[illegible]~~ were to attend the work at all times, 5 to call out the inhabitants. Leading man and artificers were to have two shillings and six pence per day; other laborers two shillings. The bridge cost £44. 15s. 3d.

2 The second bridge over Fort-river was ordered Aug 28, 1667. A committee was appointed to call out men &c. The bridge was to be lower down than the old one, & to be built before winter.

5 In October 1688, one of the bridges over Fort river was partly destroyed by fire, and the town voted Oct 16, to repair it speedily. On the same day the town prohibited the firing of lands without license, from which, it is fair to infer that the bridge was partially burnt in consequence of the woods being set on fire.

6 On the 16th of January, 1688, a committee was chosen "to view and consider whether it may be best, either to build a new bridge over the Fort river, or repair the old, where the county road now lieth to the Bay, making report to the town."

7 ~~Sometime~~ Between 1688 and 1699, the ~~bridge was~~ road to the Bay was laid out where it has since remained, and crossed the river near where the bridge & mills now are. But there are no record of this ~~change in~~ change in the road, and the building of the bridge. Hadley has no records of transactions between April 10, 1688, and January 1690, except a single vote. The ~~bridge~~ committee chosen Jan. 16 1688, may have reported in favor of ~~building a bridge down~~ building a bridge down the stream ~~near~~ the place where it now is, ~~and~~ the town may have concurred. ~~To other the road was. It was easy to alter the road, for the land was everywhere~~ Be that as it may, ~~when the~~ in 1699, when the swamps on Fort river were recorded, there was a highway 14 rods wide, "for the county road" and a bridge, ~~where the bridge has since been~~ ~~which bridge has since remained~~ about half a mile below the bridge of 1685 ~~at Spring hill~~ ~~and where the bridge since~~ This was called Lawrance's Bridge in 1710 and before, and in 1718 the town voted to build a new bridge over Fort river "at the place called Larrance's Bridge."

~~Bridges.~~

On the 14th January 1684, the town voted to build a bridge over Mill river at the Middle, "by trussels or otherwise, as the selectmen and Samuel Porter senior, shall judge best." To be performed by labor assessed on each inhabitant according to his list. Those who do not labor, to pay by rate, as other rates are paid. All men that labored were allowed two shillings and sixpence a day, each; and man and team, five shillings a day and six pence. The whole expense was only £11. 17. 4. There must have been a bridge over Mill river before this, for the mills were on the north side of the stream. Perhaps the mill owners ~~[illegible]~~ first made a bridge at their own expense.

2 In January 1675, a committee appointed by the Court made an agreement with Joseph Kellogg. He was to have a good boat for horses and a sufficient canoe for persons, with sufficient attendance "If any person will have the boat, he is to pay as if he had a horse with him". Kellogg was to have for man and horse, 8 pence in wheat or other pay, or 6 pence in money; for single persons 3 pence, when more than one, twopence each. On Lecture days, when people passed to and from Lecture, they were to pay only one penny each, if 6 or more went over at once. Troopers passing to and from training exercises were to pay only 3 pence for man & horse. All cattle and goods to be in proportion to 8 pence for man & horse. Kellogg might entertain travellers, keep cattle &c. & take pay as ordinary provided.

Ferries.

1 When the homelots were laid out a small lot below the South highway into the meadow, extending southerly to the river, was reserved as a ferry lot, being the most convenient place for the residence of the person who should be employed to keep the ferry between Hadley and Northampton. Joseph Kellogg ~~an~~ at first had a homelot on the east side, below the lot of Mr. John Russel, senior, In April 1661, propositions were made to him about keeping the ferry, and an agreement between him and the town was made in 1661, for three years, and he removed across the street and built upon the ferry lot, part of which was given to him then, and the remainder afterwards. ~~[illegible]~~ containing only ~~[illegible]~~ one or two acres. Nathaniel Dickinson and Richard Goodman had purchased land in Northampton meadow, and built a large boat to bring off their hay and grain. In December 1661, the town purchased this boat for six pounds, for the ferry, Dickinson & Goodman reserving the use of it six days in a year for three years. The terms on which Joseph Kellogg kept the ferry for three years do not appear. The west side people were not taxed for this south ferry. When the Court ordered Northampton to keep a ferry, Oct. 1664, the ferryman was to have six pence a horse and twopence a person, except troopers passing to upon military exercises were to be carried over for three pence both man & horse. ~~[illegible]~~ The ferry was not kept on the Northampton side, and Joseph Kellogg doubtless received the fare stated.

P. 3 ~~Twenty three years later~~ In 1687, another agreement was made with Joseph Kellogg. ~~by men appointed by~~

~~the Court. he was to have~~
~~whom the Court had appointed~~. He was to have sufficient
boats & canoes, ~~and to have~~ & good attendance, ready in the day time, for man & horse
& pence in pay, ~~or~~ 6 pence in money; for persons 3 pence each,
or 2 pence when more than one at a time; ~~after daylight till~~
~~9 o'clock, he might take double their prices~~ for hoopers
on service 3 pence in money for man & horse. After daylight
till 9 o'clock he might take double their prices. At
other times of the night, & in extraordinary storms, tempests
& floods, those who wished to be carried over, must
agree with the ferry man, or be at liberty to carry
them or not. Other persons might not carry over persons
within 60 rods of the ferry place, except men to their
daily labor. Kellogg might supply strangers with lodging
horsemeat or refreshing, & take pay as ordinary keepers
did. Joseph Kellogg & his son John Kellogg,
and his grandson James Kellogg, kept this ferry
almost 100 years, from 1730 to 1758; and Stephen Goodman
who married James Kellogg's daughter, kept it
still later, ~~and from him~~ it received its last name,
"Goodman's Ferry."

The river in 1661 was much nearer ~~the south side of the street~~ ~~that it now is~~; it was not far down the street from
the house Joseph Kellogg's house ~~to the river~~.

The river in 1661 was much nearer ~~the south side of the street than it now is~~ of the west side of the
street than it now is. Joseph Kellogg had a barn
barn yard south of his house, but the distance
to the river was not great. The landing must have
been a little west of the street. Aquavitae meadows
has received a great addition from ~~the south and~~
Northampton Meadows, and the river is now
... rods from the old landing place.

There is no record of a regular ferry at the north end of the street between Hadley and Hatfield until 1692. Many owned boats & canoes for farming & other purposes

There is no record of a regular ferry at the north end of the street, between Hadley and Hatfield, until 1692. Many on the east side owned land on the west side, and the intercourse between the two sides was very frequent on other accounts, as well after as before they came to be one town; & frequently owned boats or canoes, and were their own ferrymen. The first ferry was established John Ingram first appears as a ferryman in the town in the most northern house on the west side of the street. John Preston then had a little house at the north end of the street. ~~Mr Ingram~~ was the next ferryman. The fare ~~was lower there at the south ferry~~ fixed in 1696 was 4 pence for a man & horse; 3 pence for a horse or horned beast; and one penny for each [illegible], all ~~in money down~~ to be paid down in money; if not so paid, Ingram might demand double, or do as they could agree.